FOGHORN

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST OSBORNE GROUP **FOG**

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The First Osborne Group (FOG) has been formed as a users' group for all persons who use or are interested in portable computers. Membership is available to any interested party whether or not they currently own a computer. The ***FOGHORN*** is published monthly by the First Osborne Group for its members. A subscription providing bulk mail delivery to an address in the U.S. is included with membership in FOG for $24.00 per year. See chart below for the additional postage required for other locations. Address all inquiries to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474.

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FOG MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Submissions

All articles, letters-to-the-editor, member announcements, classified ads, etc., should be WordStar files, "D" mode (except for program listings), with NO PRINT COMMANDS, and Hyphen-Help OFF. The submissions can be sent on diskette by mail (to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474), copied to a FOG diskette at a First FOG of Silicon Valley meeting, delivered (by arrangement) to a FOG officer, or sent by modem to the editor (408-249-5223) or the FOG RCP/M at (415) 755-2030. "By Modem" is by far the most convenient method. If you don't have a modem, get together with a friend who does and send your file. It will be a fun experience. If you send your contribution on disc and specify the disc you would like, we will overwrite your disc with one from the library.

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Commercial Advertising

Commercial advertisements must be submitted as camera ready copy.

Size limitations for advertising are as follows:

full page: 7" x 9.5"
half page: 3.5" x 9.5" or 7" x 4.75"
quarter page: 3.5" X 4.75"

Rates, effective with the March, 1984 issue are:

$450/full page, $250/half page, $175/quarter page

For advertisers who wish to run ads in three sequential issues, a special rate is available. Three months at the rate in effect at the time the order is placed and paid in full providing the ads are run in the subsequent three issues. The Board of Trustees will be reviewing the rates monthly and increasing them as the membership grows.

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Submission Deadlines

All material is due two months in advance of the month of publication. (October 1st for the December issue). No exceptions will be made for advertising material. This change is necessary if the ***FOGHORN*** is to be mailed before the first of the month. Articles which are not month-specific may be submitted at any time. Please, avoid the deadline rush; contribute early.

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Back Issues — Reprints

Reprints of ALL back issues are available. The current cost of back issues is $1.50 per issue to partially cover reprint and mailing costs. Non U.S. members should include funds for AIRMAIL postage. Donations of additional sums will be gratefully accepted.

Not all issues are of value to new members. Vol. 1 No. 1 (October, 1981) was primarily a greeting and a plea for help in getting this group going. Vol. 2 No. 3 (December, 1982) was a 2 page issue with holiday greetings and an advertisement for SuperGraphics. Mailed with this issue was a copy of the original bylaws which have since been modified several times.

There were 11 issues in Vol. 1 since we put out a combined issue for June and July, 1982. For those who are attempting to determine which copies from Vol. 1 are of interest, Vol. 2, No. 2 (November, 1982) has a partial index for Vol. 1. November, 1983 (Vol 3, No. 2) has a partial index for Vol. 2.

Include your account-membership number. Please send the order to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474. Orders are shipped once a week. The index to the previous year is published in the November (#2) issue.

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Copies of Library Disks

FOG members may purchase copies of the library disks from the FOG office if copies cannot be obtained through their local group. Individual disks are $5.00 each. Bulk orders or 10 or more disks earn a discount of $1.00 per disk. ***NO blank disks*** may be sent in to have library disks copied to them.

Shipping and handling charges are $5.00 per order or address. This $5.00 charge must be included with every order. Please be sure to include your account-membership number. Orders without this number will be delayed since no disk orders will be shipped without this number.

For a listing of the programs and files in the library, consult the library column in each issue of Vol. 2 (except No. 3 — December, 1982). The section of the library called - FOG/LIB includes both Jim Woolley's material from the library column and a catalog program which lists the name and disk location of each program (but no descriptions).

In response to the many requests, we have published a typeset guide to the library. This has the descriptions of every disk in the library as well as the guidelines for library use. It is a loose leaf, binder punched volume. This format was selected to facilitate updates. Each copy will be in a portfolio. The price is $5.00 which includes shipping by 3rd Class (surface mail). Update pages will be offered approximately on a quarterly basis.

Affiliated Members Organizations (AMO) may participate in a monthly update service. Only the librarian of an Affiliated Member Organization may make arrangements to participate in this plan. Contact Gale Rhoades c/o FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474 (phone 415-755-4140) for further details.

New additions will be sent to participants in the monthly update service as soon as copies can be made.

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Rebates to Affiliated Member Organizations

Rebates of 25% of the membership rate ($24.00) will be made to Affiliated Member Organization (AMO) on behalf of eligible members. To be eligible for the rebate, the name of the group MUST be on the membership form (or check) when the yearly dues (new or renewal) are paid.

No rebates will be made until the Affiliated Member Organization is formally approved by the Board of Trustees.

Application for Affiliated Member Organization status must be made in writing and must be accompanied by a list of the officers — names and FOG membership number — and a signed copy of the group bylaws. For further details, request an AMO information packet.

It is not necessary that a group be affiliated when the member pays the yearly dues and specifies affiliation for that member to be eligible for the rebate.

Rebates will be paid within two weeks of the Board meeting at which the group receives its charter. Subsequent payments will be made on a quarterly basis. Refer all questions about rebates to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474.

The Board of Trustees has approved a minor change in the rebate policy for groups who are Affiliate Member Organizations. If the AMO has a checking account, the treasurer may collect membership dues for renewing or new members and forward only $18.00 (plus appropriate postal surcharges) to FOG. This allows the group to have immediate access to the rebate funds. Please note that the two requirements for this change will be strictly enforced. ***No personal checks will be accepted.***

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Change of Address

To request a change of address, send the label from a recent ***FOGHORN*** together with the new address either in an envelope marked "CHANGE OF ADDRESS" or on a Postal Change of Address Card to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474. Please allow at least 30 days for a change of address to be effective.

You should also request that the post office forward any issues that arrive before your address change is posted. You must tell the post office that you will pay forwarding charges since bulk mail is NOT automatically forwarded.

FOG cannot be responsible for additional postage charged because a member delays sending in a change of address.

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Additional Postage Charges

Your membership in FOG ($24.00) covers delivery by Non-profit bulk mail. This rate is only available to members who have bulk mail delivered by the U. S. Postal Service. For those who either cannot receive U.S. bulk mail or prefer first class delivery, please add the appropriate amount (from the chart below) to your payment.

The following is a list of additional charges which must be included with new or renewal memberships effective 9/1/83:

Canada & Mexico (First Class)	ADD...$ 6.00
Members with U.S. addresses who prefer First Class delivery to Non-profit bulk mail	ADD...$ 6.00
Central & South America, Caribbean, & Europe (Airmail First Class delivery)	ADD...$12.00
Asia, Africa, & Far East (Airmail First Class)	ADD...$15.00
Out of North America preferring surface mail — delivery not guaranteed	ADD...$ 6.00

If you want the new rates to take effect for your current membership, you may prorate the above charges for the remaining term of your membership. For each month remaining, send 1/12th of the above rates.

For those with U.S. addresses who elect to continue receiving their ***FOGHORN*** by Non-profit bulk mail, we have some suggestions for improving delivery. The post office guidelines say that bulk mail can only be traced by the recipient but that delivery in the San Francisco Bay Area should take about seven working days and to the East Coast about 15 working days. We are now taking the bulk mail to the post office before the first of each month. If you are not getting timely delivery of the ***FOGHORN*** you should contact your local postmaster. If he is unable to improve the situation, there is a complaint form at each post office. We have been assured that all complaints are pursued promptly.

We are now paying return postage for all undeliverable copies of the ***FOGHORN***. This allows us to better identify problems. FOG will be responsible for costs incurred remailing a ***FOGHORN*** only if the member has provided us with the correct address in a timely manner. If we can be of assistance, do not hesitate to drop us a note listing all of the specifics.

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Please help

It is essential that you include your account-membership number in all correspondence. ***Omitting your membership number will needlessly delay shipment of your order.*** It is **not** necessary to write a separate check for each different order. Consolidating your requests and sending only one check will save the staff considerable time.

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FROM THE FOG

At the FAIRE!, or is it FARE?

by Frank Morton

Well it is over for another year. The West Coast Computer Faire has come and gone once again. But this year it was different in several ways. For one thing it was a four day affair instead of the previous three day length. Then too it was essentially an IBM clone/ PC-DOS or Apple/MacIntosh Faire. With few exceptions, almost all of the hardware offered fell in that category. The only CP/M related machines I found were Osborne, CompuPro, and Kaypro. Cromemco and Morrow were absent. CompuPro and Zenith were the only S-100 bus systems I could find.

FOG, Drive C:, and Trantor were invited to share the booth with Osborne Computer Corporation. It was a VERY busy booth! Drive C: arrived with thousands of blue & white buttons marked "OSBORNE is BACK!" Even though we know that OCC was never really gone, the button attracted attention wherever we went. I kept hearing people say "Osborne is back?" The comradeship and enthusiasm was high. Jim Morefield of JMM enterprises and John Gaudio were there also. It was like a mini OCC convention! The response of those visiting the booth was very positive. We were very busy the entire four days of the Faire. The buttons ran out Sunday afternoon about two hours before the end of the Faire.

OCC was showing the Osborne PC. It runs all the IBM-PC compatible Software that can has been tried on it. Externally it looks similar to the executive except for the ports and the keyboard. It has an RGB port for driving a Color monitor and everyone was enjoying the Flight Simulator and PinBall programs. The machine itself will not be available for a few months yet for an as yet unannounced price. It is still in stages of final checkout, but it looks very good.

Drive C: was showing the TurboPac interface to the Trantor Hard Disk. The TurboPac has been working superbly in Beta Test at the FOG office. They also showed BACKPAC, their battery backup-transformer for Drive C: which has nonvolatile storage with 8-10 hrs. of emergency power as well as QuickPac, a potent software utility. Trantor now has a 33 MegaByte HD with 5 MegaByte interchangeable cartridge. (Also currently in use at the FOG office.)

The one other catchy Button at the Faire was one put out by Kaypro which stated "My Other Computer is a CRAY". Some microcomputer owners didn't know what a CRAY is. It is a very limited edition Super Computer. It is configured with one million 64-bit words of central memory and 300 million 64-bit words (2.4 gigabytes) of temporary disk storage. In comparison to the existing Univac Sperry 1100 it takes 88 nanoseconds to do a floating multiply, which takes 1700 nanoseconds on the Sperry. Is there anything else you would like to know about it? Of course it is not very portable, however.

The Software hit of the show had to be Turbo Pascal from Borland International in Scotts Valley, CA. Jerry Pournelle of ***BYTE*** Magazine proclaimed it the "Buy of the Show". It is a very potent, full-featured Pascal which is quite fast. In addition to being a compiler it has the ability to be run in an interpretive mode, with the unique feature that when an error is encountered it defaults to the editor mode with the cursor located where it ran into trouble! How is that for debugging? At only $50, it is available in CP/M, CP/M-86, and MS-DOS. The CP/M version only runs on a Z80 processor, but is optimized for that CPU. The Editor that comes with it has many commands the same as WordStar and they even included a spreadsheet program written in Turbo Pascal! It is no wonder that they were really doing business. Many FOG members were buying and I couldn't resist getting a CP/M-86 version for my CompuPro.

Another piece of software very popular with FOG members was MEDIA MASTER from DG Systems. It is similar to Uniform in that it allows one system to read, write, and format a disk for a different system but costs only $29.95. This is from the same people who brought us OSBRIEF, OSGRAPH, and other great programs. We had OSBRIEF electronic slide shows running as demos in the FOG booth for dispensing information.

The flavor of the Faire has definitely changed with its sale to Prentis-Hall by Jim Warren. It was more business-like and commercial this year. The crowds were big at times, but I do not think that it was as large as last year on a per day basis. It had less of a festive atmosphere and I would say that there was a determined effort to de-emphasize any orientation toward users.

We experienced this effect as we started our planning. When we contacted the Faire officials for some details, we were told they had no record of a booth for FOG. This was in spite of the fact that we had pre-registered at the 1983 Faire so we could be sure that we could get the same booth.

After some checking by WCCF staff members, we were told that because Prentice Hall had difficulties with the arrangements for the Trade Center (Jim Warren had planned on expanding to an additional location) the booth we had signed up for had to be used instead for paying exhibitors. We were offered the use of a table in the "club room" upstairs in the Civic Auditorium and a ballroom at the Holiday Inn for our annual meeting.

After publicizing that location in the ***FOGHORN*** and in our Ballot, we were told that the Holiday Inn meeting room would also NOT be available. They offered instead the Crystal Room at the San Franciscan Hotel, where we finally held our Annual Meeting. The promise to note this change of meeting location in the Program, resulted in its being hidden in the program addenda. The notice of the meeting never did appear in the Show Daily publication as was also promised.

If we had not had the good fortune to be offered the opportunity to share the Osborne Computer booth, you probably never could have found us. The Hospitality rooms for the User's Groups were bunched together, well off of the beaten path, up in one corner of the second floor. Other User Group rooms for meetings were on the third floor, but there was no map of the third floor included in the program. Pico-Net didn't even bother participating in the Faire. I cannot say that I blame them much. To make it even more frustrating, the spot in the hall where we had been located the last two years was vacant! Well, so much for the new Faire's concern about the users who Jim Warren says were instrumental in getting the Faire going in the first place!

Not all changes were bad. This year they had something called "Microcomputer All-Star Days", where famous persons of the industry spoke almost on every hour of the Faire from 1:00 pm Thursday until 5:00 pm Saturday in the Crystal Ballroom of the San Franciscan Hotel. It was a couple blocks from the Civic Auditorium. With the bustle around our booth, I missed Adam Osborne, George Morrow, and several others I wanted to hear. I understand that Adam talked about his new venture, now called Paperback Software Inc. He said he would take no questions about OCC, but his comments would be made available in the near future.

Someone asked why FOG members are so loyal to Adam in light of what happened to OCC. I replied that so many in the industry and Press are anxious to denounce Adam that many of them neglect to give him proper credit for being responsible for pioneering a whole new facet of the industry. We in FOG never forget that he was responsible for creating an inexpensive and powerful system concept with useful bundled software that we all love and enjoy so much! Whether we use Osbornes, Kaypros, Morrows, Zorbas or other like machine, we all owe him a debt of gratitude for being the first to make a useful system with potent software available to the small businessman and computer novice.

I did get to hear Bill Godbout talk. He helped to restore some of the

The Osborne Computer Corporation, First Osborne Group, Drive C:, and Trantor booth at the 9th Annual West Coast Computer Faire, March 22nd through 25th, San Francisco, California. The FOG section is hidden behind the vistors on the left. Picture by Frank Morton.

Another view of the very busy OCC/FOG/Drive C:/Trantor booth. Picture by Frank Morton.

old time fun in the Faire by taking off first his jacket, then his tie, and finally putting on a "Goofy" type hat complete with floppy ears! I never realized he has a PhD in Electrical Engineering! Two hours later Jim Warren (creator of the West Cost Computer Faire, in case you have forgotten), also sans tie, talked about companies who have failed and why. But most important of all, he emphasized that the companies who are doing well are those who share! Apple has shared technology with the industry and created opportunities for others. It has also benefited from feedback and enjoyed an enlarged market. IBM went totally contrary to its previous marketing strategy, shared its ideas and technology. We all know how much that has hurt its business. Jim thinks that sharing is the way to success and progress for th whole industry. Isn't that strange? That is what Users Groups are all about — sharing ideas and solutions.

Two and one-half hours after Jim Warren spoke, we held our Annual FOG meeting. There was a good crowd of possibly 200 people or so. The meeting went well without a major hitch (that is, if you ignore the point where I managed to set off the fire alarm trying to open the back door for some cooling ventilation!)

There were no nominations from the floor and the several write in nominations on the ballot were not accepted because it had been determined (with the help of Ben Cohen) that we are now at a size where nominations must be closed a minimum of 50 days before balloting. We crossed over the 5000 member threshold which affects the law about California Corporation trustee nominations somewhere between last year and the election. The law is not clear about what date should be used in the determination, but we decided to go with the nominees on the written ballot. Those nominees present said a few words, balloting was closed, and we then thoroughly enjoyed the Guest Speaker of the evening — Ron Brown, President of OCC.

I will address Ron's talk in another article in this issue. His entire speech plus questions and answers were recorded for us by Phil Moore. Cassette recordings will be made available soon through the FOG office in Daly City at a nominal replacement fee. Gale will no doubt have ordering details elsewhere in this issue.

The balloting results were received by phone on Sunday the 25th from Melissa Grey, our official ballot taker. Once again she did a fantastic job! The results will be posted elsewhere in this issue. There were some surprises, although Gale receiving the most votes was certainly not one of them. Melissa says that there was a high degree of participation by newer members with a lower percentage of PROXIES than last year. A Total of 2878 valid votes were cast. That is very close to 30% of the active membership! You all should be very proud of your participation. We sincerely appreciate the big turn-out. Once again FOG has shown what a truly unique organization it is!

I have been told by experts that even in the most dedicated and/or politically active organizations a 5% response on a mail-in ballot is good and 10% is more than anyone can expect. When we learned from Melissa that over 20% had been received, the Board voted to amend the BY-Laws lowering the quorum requirement to 5% of the membership. Since it was obvious that such a quorum was not needed this year, it was decided that this would be a good time to set it at a value which may prevent problems in the future when our membership could be much larger.

All in all it was a very busy but enjoyable Faire for all of us. The booth was extremely popular and attracted a lot of attention. We hope you were able to get there. If not, we hope you enjoyed our coverage of it.

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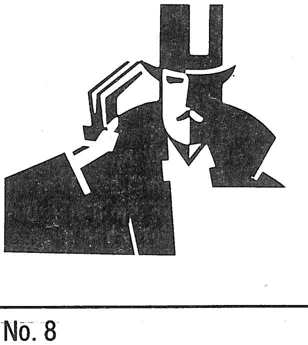

FROM THE TOP

(Ron Brown Speaks At the FAIRE)

by Frank Morton

Ron Brown, President and C.E.O. of Osborne Computer Corporation, spoke at the Annual FOG meeting at the West Coast Computer Faire. A cassette recording of his speech and the following questions and answers will be available through the FOG office. In the mean time this is free-form synopsis of his major comments.

The "Osborne is Back!" button has drawn a lot of attention. It is a pretty good statement of the situation. He is a lot more confident of their situation than he was just 90 days ago. He and his people became aware of the fact that (focus of former executives of) OCC initial efforts were not for reorganization, but rather liquidation or finding someone to buy out the company. He and his team wanted to see if the company could not be saved. It took three reorganization plans to get it accomplished.

First they went to the Board of Directors and got turned down. Then they submitted a plan to the Banks and the Board, again with negative results. Finally he realized that the Creditors were the key to reorganization. After clearing a plan with the Creditors committee, he had something that was accepted by the Board, the Banks, and in time the Bankruptcy Court.

He and the other organizers were essentially unknown. They had been working in the International Division of OCC. They were basically anonymous but at the same time untainted by the notoriety in the press.

They have been able to reduce the Bank debt by over $4.5 million and now have a very positive cash flow. The big step forward came on March 14th when the Court approved the presentation of a disclosure statement for the reorganization plan. However, he states "We work for the Creditors". It is the creditors who must now decide on approval of the reorganization plan. It is a very complicated, quite unusual reorganization plan with many different facets to it.

They have had the very good fortune to have working with them Bob Driscoll, who is an Attorney that specializes in work-out plans for companies in Chapter 11. Bob has 20 years experience in this business and Ron says "I am convinced that he is really a leprechaun!" The Securities and Exchange Commission has looked at the plan and finds no faults with it. Osborne is the first of the microcomputer companies into Chapter 11. It is their stated goal and intention that they also be the first one out of Chapter 11.

In approximately 30 to 60 days ballots should go out to the creditors to approve the reorganization plan. Assuming that it is approved OCC could be out of Chapter 11 in 90 to 120 days and back on track to regaining a position in the marketplace. In some respects it would be more comfortable to stay in Chapter 11 since they are protected there and don't have to pay interest on the loans while in Chapter 11. He is convinced that it is better to get out and be operating normally by July or August.

There is still roughly $15.4 million still owed and due in about one year. At the time of Chapter 11 about $44 million was owed. If Liquidation had occurred at that time it would have raised about $8 million. By staying in operation the company is worth considerably more than that.

New products will be needed for the company to survive and pay its debts. It would not be able to operate very long without bringing out new products. So money will need to be raised to finance the R&D plus cost of introducing new products. They are just about out of Osborne 1 machines. They have taken it off of the list of products available to members of Users Groups, but it is possible a few may still be available. Its value in the market has eroded badly, so "when they are gone, they are gone."

This is not true of the Executive. It will still be around for quite a while. There will continue to be a market for what it really is. Its identity was confused by the announcement of its possible upgradability to the PC configuration. The PC does exist and is in fact being shown at the Faire because it has received so much publicity. However, it needs one more iteration before it is ready for release probably by this Summer. The Executive is probably upgradable to a PC, but at what cost?

Other products are in the works, but no more will be said about that right now. He prefers to have something to announce before it is announced! OCC is transitioning right now from a Marketing and Distribution plus R&D and Manufacturing Company to one that will do Marketing and Distribution only. They are working with ex-Osborne employees, many of whom have formed their own companies.

Distribution channels are coming back, especially overseas. The prediction he made that 80% of their sales would be overseas is turning out to be quite correct. They direct sales to Users Groups are working out very well. They are always glad to see Gale, but all the more so because of the checks she brings them every week. In addition value-added sales persons are showing up and becoming an increasing part of the business.

The overseas sales are strong because it takes a lot of time and money investment to create the necessary translations (actually rewrite) of literature and manuals for an overseas market. That has already been done and is in place. It would take a new company a couple years to prepare for that market. These changes are tough to do, consequently they haven't lost that market and sales are quite strong.

He believes that only Apple has a User Group support force that approaches anything like what OCC has. He wants to be a part of that force. In time he is sure that Users Groups will be very influential in many ways. Users Groups are going to become a major force in the computing industry.

OCC needs about $1.5 to $3 million to complete new products. Putting the company in better health will make it easier to raise that money. Manufacturing licenses are in the works. Many people assume that manufacturing will be off-shore. He wants to find an American manufacturer. He would rather have machines built here if that is possible.

He thinks the booth at the Faire worked out just great. It is like a family affair with FOG, Drive C:, and Trantor all there.

They are in the process of working some negotiations for factory-authorized software. It will be with Add-On Systems. The negotiations are almost concluded. There will be an 800 series phone number for software support. About 30 programs were released by OCC, but as many as 200 were in review. That work is being headed by Ken Hirsohn who was involved with it before. Catalogs for OCC software will be sent out.

Micro-Pro has a mailing out on a upgrade to WordStar for $99. (Gale will no doubt have more details in this issue.) The indicated deadline will probably be extended so that we can get the word out.

The ***Portable Companion*** is available at the Faire. It was the second most asked question about OCC. It was produced with the help of Tony Bove and Cheryl Rhodes of The User's Guide. It will be coming out every other month. Two free copies will be sent to every person who was ever on distribution for it. It will in time be produced independent from OCC in order to be more objective.

The OCC Bulletin Board should be up in a couple weeks or so. Roy Robinson has been working with Gale and Jack Brown with their Bulletin Board Systems. OCC needs to wait until the phone line is in. They will be moving. There is no need to keep the big buildings. They will no doubt stay around Hayward as it is "equally inconvenient to all major participants."

In conclusion he remarked about the fact that in spite of all the press that OCC gets and the number of times he expresses his appreciation for our support the articles never seem to mention the Users Groups. He said "They don't know what we have in the support of the users." He expressed again OCC's appreciation of all our support and that "I think we can get there from here!"

In the Question & Answer session the following occurred:

Q. Why did you say we are all creditors and how can we be sure to get on the correct mailing lists?
A. *READ the April* ***FOGHORN*** *!!! Register your claim as a creditor for anything you are owed by OCC, e.g. UTE, P-System, Portable Companion subscription, unused Warranty, etc. All unsecured creditors (of which Ron is one): 1) can vote on reorganization plan, 2) may get money back, & 3) may in time get OCC stock.*

Q. Back East we want to help also. Can we become investment owners?
A. *Yes, help all you can to get the plan accepted and product sold. We want to get reorganized before offering stock. Currently we can offer shares off-shore or in California ONLY. It is a two step process and we want to earn your trust before the second step of a general public offering.*

Q. What languages are available overseas, and what are the machine prices?
A. *The major languages; German, French, English, Spanish, Italian, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, Greek, Arabic, Hebrew, Thai. Plus the Exec has soft keys to program your own fonts. The Os1 at $1095 has been essentially withdrawn since it is almost run out. The Executive at $1595 to User Group members with a one year Xerox warranty included.*

Q. Do we have to go to Xerox? Can we save money by getting without warranty?
A. *We have a responsibility to see that you are covered, but you can work an arrangement with Mission Peak or a Dealer who has maintenance support.*

Q. Is there an 8086 machine (as opposed to 8088) in the works?
A. *Could be ..... maybe even a 32 bit machine.*

Q. Is Xerox Warranty good out of United States?
A. *No! — and not in Alaska either. But Canada is O.K.*

Q. Is the ***Portable Companion*** available in Canada?
A. *YES!*

Q. Can Overseas persons be creditors?
A. *YES! We did not discriminate in owing anyone.*

* * * * * * *

FOG ELECTION RESULTS
MARCH 24, 1984
by Melissa E. Gray, Inspector of Elections

1. Gale Rhoades	2756
2. Frank Morton	2705
3. David M. Oates	2547
4. Jack Browm	2234
5. Fran Weber	2182
6. Kennie L. Smith	2164
7. Jim Switz	2129
8. Robert Kavinoky	2119
9. Larry Sydes	1783
10. Philip A. Moore	1732
11. John Gaudio	1411
12. Leo E. Grandi,C.A.M	1072
13. Benjamin H. Cohen	952
14. David Felt	697
15. Byron Davies	510
TOTAL VOTES	26993

The top ten vote getters constitute the winners in the election. These ten will meet to select from amongst themselves the officers for the upcoming twelve months.

Since it was not possible for the board to meet prior to the time this issue was "put to bed", it was not possible to include that information here. We will, however, be able to alter the listing on the top of page two. As always, page 2 is the place to look for basic membership information.

* * * * * * * *

Bits and Pieces from the Office and Around

by Gale Rhoades

If you haven't filed your claim with the Bankruptcy Court by the time you read this, it is probably too late. But just in case, check the calendar. Is it May 15th yet? No? Well then time is running out. The Bar Date (the last day to file a claim against Osborne Computer Corporation is (was) May 15, 1984. I sure hope all eligible owners filed.

Portable Companion

In case you missed the news, the ***Portable Companion*** reappeared on March 23rd. For those interested in subcribing to it, the rate to an address in the U. S. is $25.00 for six issues if payment accompanies your order, $28.00 if you request billing. For Canada and Mexico, the rate is $35.00 U.S. if payment accompanies the order. For overseas, the rate is $50.00. VISA and MasterCard accepted. The ***Portable Companion*** will be published every other month. Send your order to:

PORTABLE COMPANION
Mail Drop 18
26538 Danti Court
Hayward, CA 94545

URGENT FOOTNOTE: The address on the subscription forms was incorrectly listed. To subscribe to the ***Portable Companion***, use the address above.

WordStar Update

Also announced at the West Coast Computer Faire, and in a subsequent mailing to know Osborne owners, was the availability of the WordStar 3.0 and MailMerge upgrades for Osborne 1's. There were several questions asked about the offering which comes directly from MicroPro but we were unable to get the answers during the Faire. Of biggest concern to many members was the fact that the offering had a deadline of April 30th and appeared to limit the offer to those who received the mailing.

While the information was totally unobtainable during the Faire, I have since been able to answer these and many other questions. MicroPro has, after many months of frustration for many users, heralded in a new day for customer support, *including Osborne users!* Not only was I able to talk to someone without being disconnected, I found a real interest in helping us.

Most important for any user who has not received the mailing, the deadline has been extended until June 15, 1984. Any order postmarked by that date will be able to take advantage of the discount for the upgrades. Additionally, MicroPro will accept orders over the phone. The toll-free phone numbers are:

California only — (800) 321-6253
U.S. (except California — (800) 227-5609

For calls originating out of the United States, the number is NOT toll-free. Call:

(415) 499-1200 ask for Update Department

The upgrades available are:

The affordable WordStar/MailMerge 3.3

WordStar Update	$ 85.00
MailMerge Update	25.00
Regular Price	$110.00
Special Offer Price	$ 99.00

The WordStar Professional 3.3

WordStar Update	$ 85.00
MailMerge Update	25.00
SpellStar (retail price)	150.00
StarIndex (retail price)	195.00
Regular Price	$455.00
Special Offer Price	$249.00

To either package, you must add $5.00 for postage and handling. California residents must add 6.5% sales tax. SpellStar requires double density. All payment must be in U.S. currency. Send your order to:

MicroPro International
P. O. Box 4960
San Rafael, CA 94913

The RBBS — RCP/M

I had hoped to have the first in a series of tutorials for this issue but sleep won. I do however, have a few hints for those of you interested in using the system.

1. The systems are on line 24 hours per day, except for maintainance. Maximum access time per day is one hour (60 minutes). As soon as we get a clock working, access time will be set by your access code and the current limitation of individual files under XMODEM will be removed. A couple of major changes were made in the systems just prior to the Faire. First was the upgrading of system #1, courtesy of Trantor Systems (we now have a 33Mb hard disk). The second was the change from the public domain RBBS software for the message system to Tim Gary and Byron McKay's METAL. I think you will find this a little easier to use...I sure do!
2. The first time you call, be sure to set your modem and software up to capture the messages that appear on screen so that you can print them out later for reference. Many clues for better use of the systems are contained in these messages. Be sure to check the messages periodically for changes. If you are using a version of MODEM7, **T filename.typ<cr>** will drop you into the terminal mode with a file available to save the information. Use **^Y** to open the buffer, another **^Y** to close the buffer. **WRT** at the command line will write the information in the buffer to the file you opened earlier.

   If you are using the COMM-PAC modem with either AMCALL or MYTERM, use the default (XON-XOFF) protocol. This does not change the fact that you must change to the 8 bit, no parity (<esc>U with AMCALL) in order to connect with the systems. With AMCALL, use <esc>**F filename.typ** to open a file, <esc>**R to open the buffer,** <esc>**E** to end and write the contents of the buffer to the file you opened earlier.

   With MYTERM, select the Parameter sub-menu to change the data bits to 8 and the parity to none. Use the Text File Download Menu options to capture the material as it appears on screen.
3. First time callers will not be allowed to access the RCP/M system. You must use the **g** or **G** or **goodbye** to disconnect from the system. You will then be asked if you wish to leave a comment.

   Answer **y**, and enter your name, address, phone numbers, and FOG membership number. When I next do maintainence, I will upgrade your status. Most days, though not always, this is within 24 hours. Since I do not like to interrupt a caller, I do not always manage to get into the system every day so if you are calling long distance, I suggest you wait a couple of days before calling back. If I am going to be unavailable for several days, I will leave a message on the system.
4. This brings up the subject of the message system. Take the time to at least check the summary of the messages put on the system since you last called (or from message 1 if this is your first call). **Q** will list the subjects only. **S** will list subject, author, and to whom message was addressed. **RS** lists the subject, author, and addressee for each message and the asks if you wish to read the message. It prompts you for the starting number. This is the best method for reading the messages.

   For those who are willing to answer other callers' questions, **RP** is the best command to use. **RR** is like **RS** except that the messages appear in reverse order.
5. If at anytime you need assistance, you may either request a list of commands by entering **?** or **H** or **help** or you can see if I am available by entering **CHAT**. If I am nearby, I will answer and lend a hand. I will not be able to upgrade your CP/M access while you are on line. This is because of the protections built into the system. Please do not ask.
6. Once you get to the RCP/M, familiarize yourself with the system by entering **secmap<cr>**. This will list the areas of the system available to you. **section** or **log** is the best way to move around the system. As with most functions on the system, entering only the name will bring you a brief summary of the command. Do not be afraid to try these new commands! Use **DIR *.COM<cr>** to see what commands are available. Use **whatsnew<cr>** to see what has been added or deleted to each section since you last called.

cont. on page 8

7. System #1 has the entire library on line. System #3 has only the most recent additions. Both systems have a section called NEWFILE.FOG for recent uploads and NOVICE.FOG with files for new users.
8. Several commands (LDIR.COM, LUDIR.COM, LTYPE.COM, TYPESQ.COM, etc.) have all been replaced by a version of TYPEL.COM (which is on the systems under two names — TYPE.COM and TYPEL.COM). Use it to see the directory of a .LBR file or to read a .DOC file (squeezed or not), either as part of a .LBR file or by itself. Enter **type**<**cr**> for a brief description.
9. If you need assistance, enter **chat**<**cr**> to see if I am available. I frequently work at night so don't look for me first thing in the morning. If you want to leave a message for me from the RCP/M, enter **sysop**<**cr**>. This will page me briefly and then allow you to leave a message. If you wish to re-enter the message system, **METAL**<**cr**> will do the job.

Cassette Tapes of Annual Meeting

Many members called before the annual meeting to ask if it would be possible to get a recording of the Annual Meeting and especially Ron's address. Having promised to see what could be arranged, I first got permission from Ron. That was easy but even easier was finding someone to record the meeting. Phil Moore had offered several times to record various events and was more than willing to make all the arrangements, including copies at a reasonable rate.

So, for any who are interested, we have cassette tapes available. One version is the entire meeting. This will give you a chance to hear the "pearls of wisdom" from the election nominees who were able to attend the meeting in person. Phil has prepared a 2 hour cassette — the price is $10.00 plus $2.50 for shipping and handling. The other cassette contains *only* Ron's speech and the questions he answered afterwards. The price for this shorter tape is $8.00 plus $2.50 for shipping and handling.

cont. on page 55

FOG FONES

FOG office, voice line	(415) 755-4140
FOG RCP/M #1 (300 & 1200 baud)	(415) 755-2030
FOG RCP/M #2 (300 & 1200 baud)	(604) 596-0314
FOG RCP/M #3 (1200 baud only)	(415) 992-8542
FOGHORN Editor, voice line	(408) 249-5223

ATTENTION!

The number for System #2 was incorrectly listed in the April ***FOGHORN***. Please make note of the correct number as listed above.

LETTERS

Dear *FOGHORN*:

I would first like to thank you for your publication and all the assistance it has given me. I want to especially thank Edward Grant for his program for providing linefeeds to a document created on a TRS 80 100.

In response to his problem of lost Tabs. I have an Executive and a TRS 80 100 and use Modem 712 to transfer data without the loss of any commands. I use the SMODEM program and TELCOM on the TRS 80.

In connecting the two computers it is necessary to use a null modem this can be purchased or made by using a RS-232 cable with pins 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,20 connected to 1,3,2,4,5,6,7,20 by crossing wires 2 and 3 yourself you can save the cost of the null modem.

On the TRS 80 it is necessary to go into TELCOM and change the stat to 58N1D the first number may be changed to whatever baud rate you can effectively use in transfer, data is lost in my transfers at 9600 baud, the baud rates are:

3 — 300 baud
4 — 600 baud
5 — 1200 baud
6 — 2400 baud
7 — 4800 baud

Prepare the TRS 80 by pressing function key 3 <**up**> it's response will be:

File to Upload? <**filename**>
Width? (do not enter anything yet)

On the Executive it is necessary to enter the SMODEM program. In SMODEM type **SET** after command to set the baud rate to that of the TRS 80. Then enter:

T E <**filename**>

It responds with "buffer closed" then input **^Y**.

When all commands have been typed into the Executive and it is responding with "buffer open" press <**return**> on the TRS 80. If a hard return is desired at the end of each line type a number after Width.

After transfer is complete the TRS 80 will no longer have the words UP in reverse video, type **^E** on the Executive and then **WRT** to save data. The advantages of this method are faster transfer without the loss of information.

I generally work with MODEM 712 in the B drive and a WORDSTAR disk in drive A so that the information is ready to use. Reform the paragraphs with ^B in WORDSTAR before printing.

I do have two rather slight problems with the Modem 712 program it does not respond to the BYE command and only transfers the first to letters of the filename preceded by a E. If anyone has a solution to this inconvenience please pass it along.

James R. Vilgos
Garden Grove, CA

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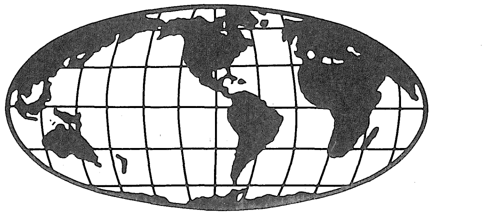

Dear *FOGHORN*:

Steve Ciarcia's **Sweet Talker** in the March 84's ***Byte*** has real possibilities for anyone working in a foreign language, you can hear your typing mistakes. How about some hardware and software experts telling us how to adapt it for the Osborne (the Exec. too). Could it plug into the serial or IEEE 488 port? How do you get it to 'reflect' the screen when typing in WordStar? I imagine the 100+ members of MIST, (Microcomputers in Support of Translation) a related computer group, would be interested too.

Russell Reed
Pleasant Hill, OR

* * * * * * *

HAM Radio, anyone?

I am a new member to your organization but have had an Osborne for over a year. I am very interested in finding other members interested in the use of the Osborne to ease record keeping with my ham radio stuff. I would like to have various programs and in fact from time to time have been working on a few of them but do not want to recreate something that someone else has already done and probably has working better. I do have a copy of the FOG library diskette with various Ham programs. Is there someone who is using these and can tell me what kind of equipment is needed additionally to utilize the RTTY program for example?

I have dBASE II so if anyone has developed a system for logs and QSL cards and keeping track of various things like WAS using dBASE, I would be very interested in getting even a copy of how they have their file structured. Also any command files which we could exchange would be appreciated.

One program which I could contribute is a routine in MBASIC which I have working to print out QSL cards. I got it from QST magazine and have reworked ita lot to get it working on the Osborne and to include some documentation with it.

I'd appreciate any assistance you could give me. I have talked with several Dallas Osborne Group people and they didn't know anyone using the FOG ham diskette or anyone with additional programs. Here is my address:

W. Terry Whalin
705 Green Pastures Drive
Cedar Hill, TX 75104
(214)291-2143

* * * * * * *

Dear FOG:

What the ***PORTABLE COMPANION*** had in form before it's demise, the ***FOGHORN*** surpasses in function. Thank you for not leaving me "in the cold".

William M. Susong
Alexandria, VA

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The following is a copy of a letter sent to Xerox Corporation and copied to FOG for the edification and entertainment of our members.

Gentlemen:

On November 1, 1983, after being solicited and consulting with one of your service representatives, I purchased a Xerox Maintenance Agreement for my Osborne 1. The benefits seemed very good at the time.

A) no initial inspection required on a two year contract
B) balance of factory warranty to be included
C) completely renewable every two years, no inspection required
D) service at any authorized dealer
E) repairs within 48 hours (not guaranteed, but implied)

I had never had a problem with my Osborne 1 and I considered the XMA good insurance.

Unfortunately, the policy turned into a nightmare. Two weeks before Christmas the computer broke. I attempted to take it to Manchester Equipment, 50 Marcus Blvd., Hauppauge, NY. for a repair, it being the closest dealer recommended by your phone representative. Manchester told me they were not an authorized dealer and to go to Xerox in Lake Success, NY.

The Main reason for my purchasing the XMA was the PROXIMITY of Manchester Equipment. The Lake Success is almost 50 MILES from my office... So I had to ship the computer there. It was returned... at my expense ...about a week later. The holidays intervened, back to work in January, SAME PROBLEM with the computer. Shipped back (1/17/84) returned to me ... SAME PROBLEM... can't handle the shipping costs, personally delivered the computer to Xerox, Lake Success (for the fourth time) with the same complaint. They can't find the problem... must be my software? Returned again with software... heard some talk about "drive shields" and "who has repaired/worked on this machine?" Now machine appears to work. Back to the office... several days later guess what? ...right...SAME PROBLEM (5th time) Personally delivered computer to Xerox, Lake Success close to antisocial behavior and/or psychiatric evaluation... NO problem found. I am now past anger and resolutely calm... Back to work ? you know it! SIXTH TIME This time I pay shipping costs and try to think of other things.

My computer is back now and working. Paul at Lake Success said he found a loose connection, "practically falling off" is the way he put it. I wonder if that was the problem all along? Oh well, I just had to tell someone, maybe ***POPULAR COMPUTING*** will usa this as a short story. I hope for everyone's sake my computer has the good sense to remain functional for at least... six months.

Jeffrey K. Churchill
Pt. Jefferson Sta., NY

* * * * * * *

Dear Gale:

I have an Osborne 1 and a fairly recent version of Modem7. I have recently purchased a DEC Rainbow 100+ and was given a very early version (3.26) of Modem7 formatted for the DEC. Unfortunately, the DEC version that I have does not allow for batch transfers which makes it exceedingly cumbersome to download large number of files. I am looking for any version of Modem7 which has been patched for the DEC and can do batch transfers. If it is only available on an Osborne disk, I have the capability of downloading it. Should any such program come to your attention, I would very much appreciate your letting me know.

An alternative approach is the program, UNIFORM, you advertise in the FOG newsletter. However, I suspect that this program would only allow the Osborne to read DEC formatted disks and not vice-versa. I need to be able to transfer between the two computers in either direction. Please advise me if this program is a viable alternative considering my needs.

I wanted to also let you know how much I enjoyed the newsletter. It is very informative and useful. Keep up the good work!!!

Carla E. Litvany
Winter Park, FL

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Contributions?

Having recently read your most informative column in the Dec.'83 ***FOGHORN*** re "how to properly address the FOG RCP/M bulletin board", I was struck by your closing comment re "the contribution". Seems a few days before I had just purchased my wife a snazzy $100 (well, actually, $99.98, but we won't quibble over pennies) black lace nightwear ensemble. So, half in jest (heh,heh) -- I showed her your comment. She, at first, went into the proper (and expected) feminine snit and refused to discuss the matter. So, as a gentleman should, I hastily changed the subject.

cont. on page 10

Last night, however, a most interesting thing happened. She said that she had been thinking about your comment and, since she only used half the ensemble anyway, that it would be nice if I returned the other half and sent [FOG] the fifty dollars. She is rather a computer bu-- oops, nearly said buff there and that wouldn't do would it, make that aficionado — as I am, also. Well, to make a long story short, here's the $50 and you guess which half I returned. WRONG! It was the *right* half, of course. And if you guessed anything else you're a dirty old (man,lady).

James E. Hawkins
Colorado

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor,

This is another of those letters praising the Public Domain Software found on the FOG Library. The programs to be discussed this time are:

From -FOG/UTL.014

SAP — a short program which will Sort And Pack the directory on a disk. The directory is sorted in alphabetical order with any files prefixed with "-" coming first. This really comes in handy when you are using the CCP command DIR. You can scan the list of data files much faster.

NECSET — which offers you a chance to setup a NEC 8023-C printer for

10 characters per inch
12 characters per inch
17 characters per inch
proportional printing
emphasized print
non-emphasized print
double width print
single width print
6 lines per inch
8 lines per inch

TOGGLE — which switches CP/M LST between the Serial RS232 port and the Parallel IEEE 488 port without having to go through the SETUP program or having to keep two copies of WordStar setup for different LST PORTS. This is handy because I have a NEC 8023-AC printer at home and a NEC Spinwriter at work. To use both printers I have one disk with WordStar and TOGGLE on it. Easy as falling off a camel.

The final program is the copy of NSWP196. This is really a sweet little program. Little because it only occupies 7K on a DD and 8K on SD. Sweet because this is what it does:

— Allows you to step forward and backward through the disk's directory. You will see the file name and its size.

For a single file you can
— copy it to another disk
— rename it
— delete it with prompting and additional prompting for a R/O file (which can't be deleted using ERA.
— print a file (prints squeezed or unsqueezed file)
— views a file (either squeezed or unsqueezed)
— tag or untag a file for mass actions

For multiple files
— copy tagged files to a specified disk
— erase (delete) either tagged or untagged files (your choice)
— Allows you to log onto a specified drive. It displays the following information when you log onto a new drive.

```
NUMBER OF FILES   TOTAL SPACE USED   TOTAL SPACE REMAINING
```

You may also selectively check for the space remaining on a specified drive. Finally you may display a menu of options or exit gracefully to CP/M. The menu lists two options which I haven't been able to get working these are Squeeze and Unsqueeze a file. Has anyone been able to get them to work??? [*Yes!! Dave Rand has released NSWEEP version 2.02 which is so fantastic that it should be a required program on every computer manufactured. It will be in the library soon and is already up on the FOG RCP/M in the NEWFILE.FOG section. Incidently, the one you have will unsqueeze if you first "T"ag the file and then enter "Q". Squeezing does not work on your version. — Gale Rhoades*] If so I would appreciate the feedback on how? Even without these two options, NSWP196 is one of the greatest programs going.

This concludes my review of the FOG LIBRARY for now. I just haven't gotten around to trying all of the new toys just yet. The ones I intend to try next are the

— LIBRARY UTILITY series LU and LRUN found on -FOG/UTL.017 and LUDEF1 and LUDIR found on -FOG/UTL.019

— MENU found on -FOG/UTL.021

I hope the brief summaries of the programs have been of some use to people in choosing which disks to order from the FOG LIBRARY.

Bob Hamilton
% ARAMCO
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

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Help needed with Brother printer

I own a Brothers HR-1 letter quality printer and have no complaints about its performance, but would like to know if it will produce special effects; ie, double-strike, subscript, superscript and strikeover. Other special effects such as boldface and underline works beautifully. My dealer knows nothing about this so I would appreciate it if you, or someone "out there" could tell me.

Marty Westfall
Carmi, IL

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Help needed with Epson printer

I have a Osborne 1 DD question that I would like aired in the ***FOGHORN***, but first, I would like to let you people know how helpful you have been to me as a source of info over the last two years. THANKS!!!

Now the question:

Is there either a public domain or other program which will allow me to print out Osborne 1 graphics on my Epson MX-80/Graftrax? I would like to be able to print output from programs like SCRAPAINT, etc... I believe that what I am after is a GRAPHICS SCREEN DUMP. If any of the members in the group are familiar with this, I would appreciate some info.

Rick Johnson
Frostburg, MD

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More about the library

As I mentioned in a previous report, I have recently received several disks from the FOG library and have found many of the programs extremely useful. In reading several of the letters in the ***FOGHORN***. It has come to mind that the programs on the library are not getting enough publicity because many of the requests for help and comments can be resolved by using the programs from the FOG Library. Another example is the program NZCPR found on -FOG/UTL.024. This program modifies the area in CP/M which controls the console (called Console Command Processor or CCP). Some of the advantages of using the modified CCP are:

1. When you use the TYPE command, the file is displayed one page at a time (24 lines). The next page is displayed when you press any other key. Now when I am viewing a text file, I don't have to try to stop the scrolling with the ^S key. I don't know about anyone else but I always miss the point I want to stop or pause. Now I don't worry about it.
2. When using the ERA command, I receive a prompt message where I must verify that I want to delete the file. This makes it handy to double check before I erase the file.

3. There are also some additional CCP commands which prove to be very useful. These are:

LIST filename — will cause the file named as a parameter of list to be printed to the LST device. i.e. LIST TEST.TXT will cause the file TEST.TXT to be printed.

GO addr — will cause the computer to go to the designated address and begin operation. i.e if a program has been loaded and for some reason you have exited the program. The program is still in memory starting at address 0100. If the command GO 100 (CR) were entered, the program would begin running again starting at address 100.

JUMP addr — does essentially the same as the GO command.

There are two commands which I cannot get to operate and so I would appreciate some feedback from anyone who does know how they operate. These commands are GET and DFU.

4. One last benefit of the new CCP: if you are logged onto drive B and you enter a program name to be executed, the CCP will first search the directory tracks of drive B for the program name. If the name is not found, the CCP will automatically search the directory tracks of drive A for the program name. This means that if you do as I and keep your programs on drive A and your data on drive b; you can execute any program without having to relog onto drive A!!!! A significant savings in time and effort.

The program and the instructions for installing it are found on FOG/UTL.024. I would also like to correspond with the latest revisor of NZCPR program, J. E. Crowell of San Jose, CA. I want to see if it is possible to replace the Command DIR with the program D.COM. This would enable me to get a directory listing which includes the space used but without having to take up 1K of space on the disk.

Bob Hamilton
% ARAMCO
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

* * * * * * *

In the January ***FOGHORN***, Dave Goodfellow points out that there are a number of us out here who get a lot from our fellow FOG members via their writings in the ***FOGHORN***.

He touches on a sore spot of mine when he implies that he is unwilling to share his Osborne knowledge with others because he only writes when it "puts bread on the table." Many other FOG members, I'm sure, derive a good deal of their income via the written word — we're in advertising, consulting, direct marketing, etc.

FOG members in large numbers use their computers as a tool to help in their business activities. Whatever they and I can learn to make our writing easier and to get our job done more effectively is a plus.

Most of us have discovered — on our own — some time-saving tips, some shortcomings in various software, a way to get around a problem, etc. These are the things we should pass on to others via a short item for the ***FOGHORN***. I'd be willing to wager that Dave has found some things about his Osborne, WordStar, etc. that many of us might like to know about so that we don't have to reinvent.

For example, I was quite self-satisfied when I modified AUTOST.COM so that it would call up XDIR and display the system disk directory from a cold boot. Then I programmed my function keys to call in the program(s) that I was most likely to want to run. In talking about this to other members of my user group, I found that this nothing new to them! It was common practice for many of them — but it was not documented. If someone had written it up, perhaps I might have saved some time or used my time to better advantage.

Anyway, I've spent a few minutes writing this and a short note about FINDBAD that (perhaps) appears elsewhere in this issue. If these help another FOG member, I'm pleased.

Yes, Dave, FOG needs all its members — whether or not they contribute material to ***FOGHORN*** or the FOG Library. I do hope, though, that more of the "silent 5000" will take the time to share some of their tricks, ideas, solutions, etc. with the rest of us.

Frank Dunaway
Garden City, NY

* * * * * * *

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Dear Editor:

I hate to start my letter on this note but A COMPLAINT IS IN ORDER! I happen to have purchased my Osborne for the purpose of writing several lengthy books and I find that whenever the ***FOGHORN*** comes to my door that work just comes to a standstill. It is so absolutely fascinating that I have to shut down the computer and READ! As you can tell, this leaves several thousand dollars worth of equipment non-productive until I can digest the contents of each issue. Thus, you have delayed the publication of my work several times with your invasion of useful knowledge.

I have only one consolation. I have learned how to save more time through the tips than I lose reading about them. However, if you would publish WEEKLY I could schedule you in and it wouldn't be such an irregular interruption. [*Give me a break! — David*]

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!

Having now reaped the benefits of the ***FOGHORN*** for many months, and having just finished the first major project with my Osborne, (a 500 page book written with WordStar), I thought it appropriate to contribute what little I can to repay those who have helped me save MUCH time in the last year.

My nearest dealer is 140 miles away (ComputerLand in Springfield, Mo. — Paul Lauda is the service technician — he's good), so I try to insure that a trip for service seldom occurs. I am also about 160 miles from the nearest Osborne users group that I know of.

Read on and you'll see that I think like computers do, for my thoughts come to me with RANDOM ACCESS.

A short on BDOS ERRORS, I have never seen one except for the few times that I forgot to put a disk in the "B" drive before accessing it or forgot to "^C". (Ah, yes; I one time had an actual bad sector on a disk that even FINDBAD.COM verified.) I had ROM 1.43 at first, and now, 1.44. When I clean the heads, which is about once in three months, I use those long "Q-Tip" type of cleaning sticks such as are used for cleaning 8-track tape players--Radio Shack Cat. No. 44-1093A. (Step the heads to track 39 with DU.COM). I have been told that they might leave a few little pieces of cotton lint on the heads and so I have a disk that I use for the sole purpose of accessing it after cleaning. I use only 3M disks (not the most expensive, but maybe the cleanest?). I have a Siemens "A" drive and MPI "B" drive. I used Ozzie about 40 to 80 hours a week last year.

I keep all my files (or at least try to) smaller than RAM size so that I may freely move about without wearing out the drives. About 18k works for me with WordStar as I can add quite a bit and still not exceed the available RAM. Over 21k and then the disks are accessed every time I move the cursor from the beginning to the end of the file. This also gains me more efficient use of disk space as I can get about 160k of text safely on one disk. Would 128k RAM be a blessing!!

Is the DU-V77.COM utility ever a ball. Anyone who doesn't have it is missing out on the finest public domain utility of them all. I use the MAP feature to help me save wear on my drives.

A "MAP" of my disk:

```
02-03  00 SUB     .COM  00 : 04-04  00 $$$     .SUB 00
05-05  00 WS      .SUB  00 : 06-06  00 D       .COM 00
07-14  00 WS      .COM  00 : 15-24  00 WSMSGS  .OVR 00
25-2E  00 WSMSGS  .OVR  01 : 2F-3E  00 WSOVLY1 .OVR 00
3F-49  00 WSOVLY1 .OVR  01 : 4A-50  00 NSWEEP  .COM 00
51-56  00 DU      .COM  00 : 57-5C  00 SETUP   .COM 00
5D-5E  00 LIST    .COM  00 : 5F-63  00 COPY    .COM 00
64-64  00 UNERA   .COM  00 : 65-66  00 FINDBAD .COM 00
67-6E  00 PIP     .COM  00 : 6F-74  00 STAT    .COM 00
75-79  00 DDT     .COM  00 : 7A-7A  00 104     .COM 00
7B-7B  00 80      .COM  00 : 7C-7C  00 52      .COM 00
7D-7E  00 BANNER  .COM  00 : 7F-80  00 SYSGEN  .COM 00
81-81  00 CV      .COM  00 : 82-82  00 MENU    .COM 00
83-84  00 FIND    .COM  00 : 85-85  00 MAGE    .COM 00
86-B8     ++FREE++         :
```

Whenever the drive accesses, it has to step to track 3 (the directory) to find the location of the file that you have called for and then it steps to the appropriate track. I have arranged my WordStar disk so that the most often used programs are the closest to track three. I don't use AUTOST.COM and have modified Track 1; Sector 6, to call for "SUB WS" (I have renamed my SUBMIT.COM to SUB.COM) and SUB.COM is the first program it will run into. Next is a blank 1k block which is reserved for the $$$.SUB file which will be written in by SUBMIT. Placed here, it saves the head from stepping out to the last of the tracks which might have an open space. (NOTE: This file space must be occupied any time you write to this disk, including the use of INSTALL.COM, or it will be filled up and not available for the SUBMIT.COM) Next comes the WS.SUB file which looks like this:

```
B:         (Logs onto ''B'' drive)
A:D        (Displays ''B'' directory)
A:WS       (Loads WordStar automatically logged onto ''B'' drive)
A:NSWEEP   (Loads ''NSWEEP.COM'' for cleanup)
A:         (Logs back onto ''A'' drive)
D B:       (Displays ''B'' directory after editing session is over)
```

Next comes the D.COM (a 1k DIR program found on -FOG/UTL.019) and then the WS.COM with overlays, then other command files in the approximate order of greater use to the least used. This arrangement saves much head stepping through months of use. Saves time of access too. The map feature is also helpful in keeping track of how noncontiguous the text files become after much editing.

Note: On a blank disk, the order in which you copy files to it is the order in which you will positionally place them on the disk.

I use The Word Plus spell checking program from Oasis. (It is an "A-1" program. They sent me a free update to the full 45,000 word dictionary when I wrote and told them that I had double density.) I keep about 4k of available space next to the directory track for the temporary files that it writes in the execution of its procedures. Again saving head stepping — (translate that into "wear and tear"). I have modified the CP/M system Track 1; Sector 6 to call for a DIR of the B drive (using D.COM) upon cold start.

A couple of the function keys that I use on my Word Plus disk:

^1 = TW<CR><ESC>B:
^2 = <CR><ESC>B<CR><CR><CR>

^1 — Loads TW.COM [The Word Plus] from the A> prompt and calls for the file that will be checked to be on the "B" drive thus eliminating my needing to type in the "B:".

^2--I push ^2 immediately after entering the name of the file I wish to check and this function key gets the Word Plus on with the work using my user dictionary "B.CMP".

Note: The <ESC> is necessary for delay in execution of the function key. Without it, the key won't work.

Thus, all I type to check a file is:

^1
FILENAME.TYP
^2

This is much faster than answering all the prompts every time.

I never let my update dictionary get too large. I add it into my user dictionary often. This saves time having to "DICTSORT" a large update dictionary every time a word is added. I have over 600 words in my user dictionary and it is quite a wait to DICTSORT that every time I check a file, so I never add a word directly to it, but add only to the update dict.

I PIP the update and user dict onto another disk, concatenate them, DICTSORT them, and then PIP the new user dictionary back onto the Word Plus disk using the overwrite function. I keep the blank 4k filled up before doing this. This keeps the user dictionary closer to Track 3.

About WordStar patching: I sure would like to "borrow" a FOG member's copy of the Customization Notes. I could leave a deposit or even rent it.

Since I use the INSTALL.COM so much I decided to make a dedicated disk for that purpose. Upon loading the disk, CP/M (Track 1; Sector 6) calls for the INSTALL.COM and I have one function key:

^1 = NDWS.COM<CR>UYUYUYUYN

⇨

Order of use:
1. Load "install" disk in drive A.
2. Replace with WordStar disk Press ^1.
3. Patch, patch, patch!

This gets me past all the printer and terminal prompts directly to start patching the various HEX locations.

I have patched the WS label "TRMUNI" with the following sequence:

02, 07, 1A.

The 02 tells how many bytes to read, 07 is the "ring the bell" code, 1A--the "clear screen and home cursor" code.

Thus, every time I "eXit" WordStar, I ring the bell (not necessary, but interesting), clear the screen and home the cursor--(unclutters the display).

Would you like to SPEED up your Smith Corona TP-1? Patch "PSINIT" as follows:

09, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 11.

The 09 tells how many bytes to read, 20 is the "space forward" code, 11--the "set new margin" code.

This sets a new left printer margin at column 8 which centers a justified 70 column line on 8 and 1/2 inch wide paper. This saves the TP-1 from doing a carriage return all the way to zero and spacing out the eight spaces with every line, saving 8 X 63 = 504 spaces per page. I can print 63 lines with this patch in the time it takes to print 56 lines without it. Anyone with this printer knows that it needs all the speed you can give it.

For the printer ending sequence, start at Hex location 06F8 and use this:

0A, 18, 08, 08, 08, 08, 08, 08, 08, 08, 11.

The 0A tells how many bytes to read, 18 is the "margin release" code, 08 — the "backspace" code, 11 — the "set new margin" code.

To use the default page offset of 6, you would use two less "20's" and "08's" in the above patches.

You must remember to patch "037E" to 00h for zero page offset.

I have set my physical and logical screen sizes both to 80 columns, and I have patched SHOW.COM to only show 16 lines at a time. This allows me to view WordStar "Document" files and not miss anything the odd time that I use SHOW.COM.

In answer to Ron Evans' question about the .PL command; the problem stems from the default values of top margin (3) and bottom margin (8). Notice these add up to 11. The defaults may be changed with INSTALL.COM (locations 036B for top and 0373 for bottom) or using the .MT (top) or .MB (bottom) dot commands within the document.

A few questions of my own:
1. I have used a fan on my Ozzie since it was new and have no heating problem, however, since I always use an external monitor I am wondering if there is a good way of shutting off the internal monitor to save on the power supply and internal heat. I am afraid to just leave the shorting plug unplugged but have thought that this might work. I never had Ozzie off my desk except to go get the 80+ option installed. Anyone have any good ideas on filtering the air that enters the front vent slots to keep out the dust? It would seem that with time the fan would make it dusty inside.
2. NSWEEP.COM won't copy a file to another disk that is STAT $R/O. It seems to copy the directory listing first and then read it and say that there is a R/O file by that name on the destination disk and won't copy the file. Can it be patched to fix this? Also, can it be patched to always verify with CRC as a default and not have to be told?
3. Is there a Hex location to patch the WordStar default tab stops? I use only columns 6 and 30.
4. Is there a Hex location to patch that will automatically log onto "B" when loading WordStar without having to log in at the CP/M level first?
5. I have access to a NEC 7730 (centronics) SpinWriter and cannot obtain bi-directional printing or Micro-proportional spacing for right justification. Can anyone help here?
6. Also would like the internal Hex location for the speed of ^QQ functions, such as ^QQB, etc. The default speed is 3, I would like to change this to 1.
7. Has anyone tried that great big 23 inch monitor that California Digital advertises as a High-res? I'd buy it if I was sure it was good enough for the 80+ column display.
8. Does anyone own the Juki 6100? How is it?
9. Is there a public domain program similar to FMAP.COM but that will give a positional map rather than alphabetical? Would like something such as the DU.COM mapping gives.
10. Can LIST.COM from -FOG/UTL.002 be patched to list to screen as the default?

I MUST MAKE A COMMENT on the suggestion by some lawyers (obviously not satisfied customers of OCC like I am) that the owners of double density file a claim against OCC for the value of the p-System. There is nothing wrong with doing so but I WILL NOT!

I, for one, feel that if anything, I still owe OCC for all that they did give for as little as they did charge.

I am also under the assumption that the p-System was an added "extra" that they were planning on throwing in as a "surprise".

If you bought the double density for the express purpose of getting the p-System, then you would certainly want to file. I have my doubts that very many were paying for the p-System, and just took the double density option because it came with it.

Judging from past experience with OCC, I am sure that they will get it out when they can afford to do so. If they should not, and I wanted it, I'd write and offer to PAY the shipping and handling, etc. to get it.

I quote the following from a letter that I wrote to Adam Osborne in September:

"I want to say that I sincerely hope that you will be able to continue to publish the ***Portable Companion*** as it has made the ownership of the O-1 so much more enjoyable. However, if you cannot; please keep my renewal money (already paid up for one full year from this month) as a token of my appreciation for all you have done for "us". I feel that in light of the fantastic bargain you gave me that I am still indebted to you, as is the entire microcomputer industry."

That's all for now. Hope this can benefit someone and perhaps I can get a few answers.

Neil Halava
Mammoth Spring, AR

* * * * * * *

Converting 52 Column SuperCalc Files to 80 Columns

SuperCalc files saved with a 52 column machine will show only 52 characters on each line when loaded normally into an 80 column Osborne.

To see all 80 or 104 characters use **/L b:filename** as usual, but when asked whether you want "All" or "Part", enter **Part** and then the range of the whole file. Thereafter the file will respond properly.

If you have not purchased an 80 column option, do so. It is well worth it. We set the screen width to 104 with the SuperCalc INSTALLS program, which makes the messages at the bottom right visible at all times.

Neil McCubbin

* * * * * * *

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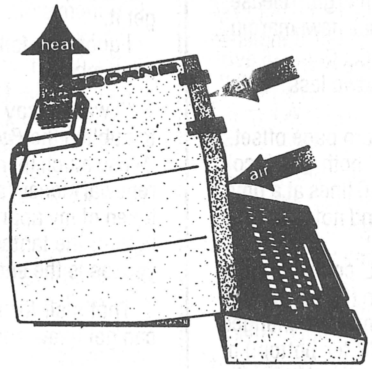

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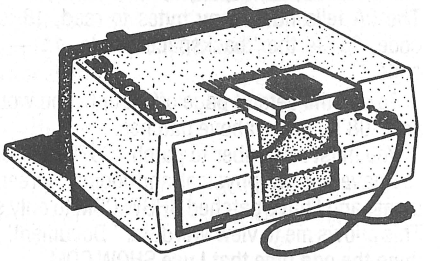

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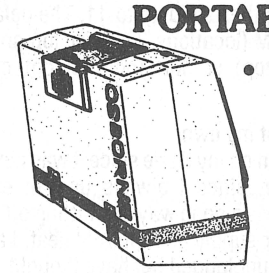

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TIPS FOR TYROS

A WordStar PRINT Key

by Joseph Bousquet

If you use a your Osborne as a word processor, you find yourself doing a lot of repetitious saving and printing. This is especially true when you are taking advantage of the ability to change pitch or typefont within a document, and you want that final document to be visually perfect. Then you find that you have to print it out, look for format errors, re-edit, save, and print again. It can get so tedious that you ask yourself, "Why didn't Osborne put a "PRINT" key on this machine?" Well, you can have a key that prints the file you are editing and even save some disk space. All you need to do is program a special function key to make use of some standard WordStar features.

The WordStar features used to make a PRINT key are found on the ^K menu; they include ^Kw (write a block to disk) and ^Kp (print a file). I include commands to finish marking a block as well. Originally, I had intended to program a special function key to print one line at a time; but this forced me to accept WordStar's default page formats, and I wound up printing a whole page, numbered 1 at the bottom, each time I tried to print a line. In order to eliminate this, I had to put some dot commands into the file, so I decided it would be simpler to mark the beginning of the block (usually the beginning of the file) before hitting the PRINT key. However, the end of the block to be printed might move around as new text is added, or as you chose to print just a portion of the file. Therefore, I let the special function key mark the end of the block.

For anyone who hasn't done this before, here is the procedure:

Assuming you already have your Osborne turned on and a diskette containing WordStar is in the left-hand drive, push the "reset" button. Put your working CP/M system diskette in the right-hand drive and perform a cold boot using shift-quotation mark. Type "setup". When you see the prompt, respond with "**B**". [*Be VERY careful when using the shift-quote to boot. This causes your Ozzie to this that the right drive is A: and the left drive B:. Be absolutely sure you properly refer to the drives. — Gale Rhoades] From the menu, option "E" will allow you to program the special function keys. Choose a convenient key (I like 5 because it's in the middle of the keyboard). Enter that number and this sequence of commands:*

```
^kk^kwp<cr>y^kpp<esc> <esc><esc>
```

[Don't type "<cr>" or "<esc>", just press the RETURN or ESC key to enter them into the sequence.]

Be sure to enter a space after the first escape. This allows you to enter "escape" as a command, which will print the file without looking at all the options. The two final "escapes" will not appear on the screen; they just enter the string into memory in association with that number key. Follow the instructions to exit and save this setup on the B drive. Push "reset" again; reload WordStar and exchange the CP/M disk for a disk with a text file.

To use the print key, you need to first mark the top of the block you wish to print, using ^KB. Then move the cursor down to include all the text you wish to print. Press ^5 (or whichever number key you chose) and your disk drives will begin whirring. Be sure your printer is connected and turned on. In a few seconds your block will begin printing out without ever leaving the screen; in fact, if you have a printer spooler, you can go on editing while you print.

Some implications of this technique (are they bugs?):

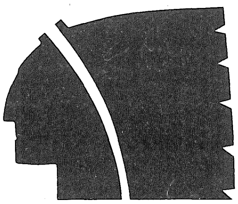
1. The disk in your logged drive must have enough space for the block.

2. This command sequence saves the block to a file called "P". Each time you use it, you overwrite the existing file called "P", without making a backup. This feature can be useful if you are only interested in hard copies and are short of disk space.

3. When you use the PRINT key on a disk that does not already have a file called "P" in its directory, it will work; but a "y" will appear in your text. This would have been the response to the prompt "`FILE B:P exists, OVERWRITE? (Y/N):` ", but that prompt didn't appear, so you get an extra "y".

4. If you should position the cursor at the same spot as an existing <K> marking a block end, the PRINT key will erase that mark and you will get an error. However, the extra space in the command sequence gets inserted into the text each time you push the PRINT key, so you can push it repeatedly, or go to the end of file (using ^QC) repeatedly, and the PRINT key will work as it should.

* * * * * * *



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WordStar Workshop, etc.

by Alan T. Chattaway

Hello again! Here are a few more "discoveries" and tips.

A. WORDSTAR WORKSHOP

Since the O-1's were cleared out at such bargain prices, we have a large group of new owners just starting out in the wonderful world of WordStar. I thought I'd write a few simple but not-so-obvious tips for beginners.

1. If you keep a copy of PIP.COM on your WordStar disk, it will be handy for backing up files on another disk. ALWAYS end the work session by copying new (or changed) files to another disk. It's best to keep a backup disk (containing identical files) for each working disk. Backup files on the same disk as the original are NO security, because a faulty disk drive will usually destroy the directory track, thus making BOTH copies of the file unavailable.

2. WordStar won't let you move the cursor to a line below the current end of the document. If you start a document with several carriage returns, you create "empty" lines. If you then return to the top and start typing, you will be able to jump down to those lines at any time. Why bother? Because jumping down and then back up is the fastest way to reach either end of the current line. To get to the start of the current line, jump down to any empty line, then up to the line you were on. Or to get to the end of the line quickly, jump down to an empty line, then jump left. Try it!

3. WordStar not only supports "search and replace", but can even include "wildcards" in what you are searching for. This feature is incorrectly documented in at least some versions of the Osborne manual, (for example, p.470 in the grey manual is wrong) so here's the truth!

For each wildcard letter you want in the word searched for, type ^PA (^P here means to type control-P). For example, searching for Te^PAt would find Text, Test, Tent, Teat. Note that WordStar doesn't display the ^PA as you typed it, but shows ^A instead. Using ^PS as the wildcard will find a match only if there's a punctuation mark in the word; for example. searching for Q^PSran will find Q'ran but ignore Quran.

^N is not strictly a wildcard, but matches a carriage return (soft or hard); thus you can find only those occurrences of "The" which start a new line by searching for "^NThe". If searching for words at the ends of line, remember they usually have a space after them, so the search would be for "The ^N". If you indent paragraphs, you could find those starting with "The" by searching for "^N The". Or if you don't indent but leave a blank line between paragraphs, search for "^N^NThe".

The most interesting wildcard is the "negative" one. ^PO in the string to be searched for means "match the string IF it has any letter EXCEPT the next one". In the example above, Te^POxt would find Test, Tent and Teat but NOT Text.

Don't forget that ^L repeats the most recent search. This can be very powerful! For example, if your last search operation was a global-replace-without-asking (options NG) then ^L will do the SAME global replacement again — even if you've saved the file you were then working on and are now editing another one!

4. What to do when the disk fills up.

(i) Don't let it happen! Make a habit of using XDIR to check available disk space BEFORE working on a document. Remember, a full page of text takes about 4K. Don't let the disk fill up with .BAK files; instead, PIP completed files to a separate backup disk, then erase their .BAK files from the working disk.

Remember, WordStar needs free disk space equal to 3 times the document's size, because if your document is bigger than the available memory, WordStar creates temporary disk files to hold the top and bottom of the document.

You can check the size of your document any time by typing ^OP; FC=#### will appear at the top of the screen and is the number of characters (bytes) in the document up to the place where the cursor is. (Typing ^OP again returns PAGE # to the top line.)

(ii) Erase some other files off the disk! Since you have a backup disk you shouldn't lose anything permanently. ^KF shows a list of the files on the "full" disk, and ^KJ will erase one for you. Start by erasing .BAK files; if that's not enough, erase a big file that you're sure is backed up elsewhere. Then try again to save your current file.

(iii) Mark the whole document as a block. (^KB at the top, ^KK at the bottom). Write the block to drive A with ^KW. If there is not enough space on drive A, you may be able to clear some using the technique in (ii) above. First use ^KL to log to drive A, then ^KF to see which files you might remove (^KJ A:filename) to some space. This ^KW method works only if the whole document is in memory.

(iv) If all else fails, press RESET and use the program WS-SAVE.COM (on -FOG/UTL.036) to get back most or all of the file from memory. For long files, the two temporary files WordStar makes will still be on your old disk and should contain most if not all of your document between the two of them.

B. MAKING A FILE AVAILABLE TO TWO "USERS"

[*Editor's note: You may or may not find this part to be a tip for TYROS. If you don't understand it, don't feel intimidated, it's a bit heavy for beginner material. David*]

Some of us have discovered that CP/M allows up to 16 "users" on each disk. These are selected by typing USER #<CR> at the system level, where # can be 0 to 15. Each "user" is completely independent of the others, having its own files and directory, and the file names may even be the same for different "users" on the same disk. Of course the total space available on a disk is the same no matter how many "users" have a piece of it.

The system always starts in USER 0 and most of us never change it. Sometimes, however, "users" are helpful for keeping groups of files separated. For example, I have some games on my SuperCalc disk, but under USER 1 so the casual onlooker (or surreptitious borrower) at work never sees them in the directory of USER 0.

[*What follows is definately NOT for the beginner. You may prefer to transfer files from one user level to another with one of the "SWEEP" programs (NSWEEP.COM from -FOG/UTL.031 for example). -- Gale Rhoades*]

The catch to employing "users" is that there's no obvious way to move files from one "user" to another. And officially a file can belong to only one "user". Therefore, to have, say, XDIR or PIP available to two "users" requires two copies of the same program to be on the same disk. This is a sheer waste of space!

PIP has an option [G] to copy files from another "user" to the current "user"; but first you need a copy of PIP under the right "user"! This can be done with DDT (load PIP into memory, change "user" and save PIP again) but this results in two copies of PIP taking 8K each. Of course you can then go back to the old "user" and erase PIP there.

If you have one of the DU Disk Utilities (DU-V77 or the newer version DU-V86) and have read Doug Hurst's ***FOGHORN*** series on how to use it, you will know that the first byte in front of the filename in the directory is the "user" for that file. You can change it with DU to any number between 00 and 0F (that's hexadecimal for 0 to 15) and the file now exists for the new "user" — but no longer for the old "user".

As long as your directory is not full (64 entries are allowed!) I found you can use DU to assign the file to several "users". First, look at the directory entry, typically:

```
00 00500950 20202020 20434F4D00 00000040 *.PIP      COM....@*
10 02030405 06070809 0000000000 00000000 *................*
```

Copy that down carefully! Now move ahead in the directory until you come to the first free entry (either an erased file name or space that's never been used) and use the hexadecimal "change" function of DU to copy exactly the same directory entry there, EXCEPT with the new "user" number as the first byte, for example:

```
40 01500950 20202020 20434F4D00 00000040 *.PIP      COM....@*
50 02030405 06070809 0000000000 00000000 *................*
```

⇨

Write this back to the disk and exit from DU. Check with DIR that the file still exists at USER 0. Now type USER 1 to change "user", and check again with DIR — the file is also available to this "user"!

To date I haven't found any problems using this unorthodox technique with CP/M 2.2. In fact the concept can be extended, even under the same "user"; a long .DOC file can be divided into "chapters" so that the directory assigns all the blocks to WHOLE.DOC but at the same time assigns one block at a time to CHAPTER.001, CHAPTER.002 etc. Or two files may be combined, while still existing separately. The one side-effect I've found is that under CP/M86 STAT no longer works for that disk; it gives a message like "BAD DIRECTORY, MULTIPLE ASSIGNMENTS" and names the offending file! If you do make something like WordStar available to more than one "user" this way, don't forget that it consists of three or four files which must all be available together.

[*Another approach to obtaining this multi-user level status is to use the program DUPUSER21.COM from -FOG/UTL.019. This programs eliminates all the difficulties in the approach outlined above for making a program useable on more than one user level. — Gale*]

C. GAME PATCHES

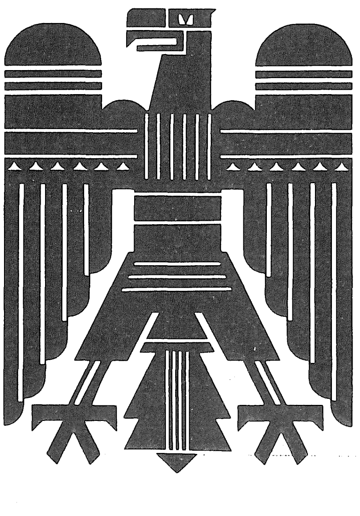
Last, a note about the files that I'm sending to the disk library. CASTLE.BAS is the same good old Wizard's Castle game already in the library, but patched according to Irene Cohen's "Castle Remodeling" article in the January 1984 FOGHORN to randomize the start of the game. I added a few words to advise the player that there will be a slight delay at the start.

CASTLE.DOC is again the same document file provided with the original CASTLE.BAS game, but with very significant improvements in the formatting. I have changed it from ALL UPPER CASE to mixed Upper and Lower case, which makes it vastly more readable; I have adjusted the margins to 52 columns to suit our Osbornes; and I have justified the right margin for better appearance on a print-out. This is a non-document file, so may be viewed with TYPE. I did this some time ago for ourselves, but it only occurred to me after Irene's article that I should send it back to FOG.

CASTLE is a long-time favorite among the elves here in my own "castle", and this change to the documentation is really worth having! As neither the game nor the documentation is strictly new, perhaps these could be sent out as a revision to the original game disk, rather than taking up space on a new disk. The source of the changes has been noted in both files.

Alan is a very active member of the Vancouver Portable Computer Club, an Affiliated Member Organization. For information about the group, call (604) 298-6990.

* * * * * * *



HELP

(or That's Not a BUG it's a Feature)

By Bradley S. Albom

Welcome again to the ***FOGHORN*** Help column. This is the place to send your questions about your Osborne and any software you're using with it. To get your question(s) answered, send a letter of a page or less to:

Bradley S. Albom
c/o COMSOL
The Computer Solutions Company
P.O. Box 206
Pt. Richmond, Calif 94807

If you prefer the phone, you can also leave me a message at (415)-234-8346. I'd prefer it if you limited phone calls to quick answers for the problems brought up in the column. My time has become such that I simply cannot return all the calls I am getting. If someone else would like to volunteer to handle phone in problems, please contact me and I'll be sure to get your name and number out to our other users.

On your letters, remember, the lead time for this column is three months. If you can wait that long for an answer, fine. If you can't, include a SASE or post card with your mailed in questions.

Direct dBase II questions to:

Mr. Blake Mason
723 Old Country Road, Apt. N
Belmont, Calif 94002

This Month's Solutions

Solutions have continued to come in for two of the most popular questions I've had to date. Converting 52 column SuperCalc files to 80 columns and IBM file compatibility.

I had already sent in last month's column when I got David Hopkins' notes on IBM/Osborne 1 compatibility (CP/M-86 data files only) and moving 52 column SuperCalc files into an 80 column machine (he uses SuperCalc's Installation program). He works at the USDA Data Services Center and also writes that their collection of USDA prime choice Ozzies are doing just fine. I guess we won't be hearing a "Where's the Beef?" question about the gutsy little Ozzies.

Both Bob Sands from Kansas and Dave Brast from Pt Reyes like to use the /Load,filename,Part, A1:lastcolumnlastrow,A1 SuperCalc sequence to do the 52 to 80 or 104 column conversion. Unfortunately, any special formatting you had in the 52 column version is lost and has to be re-entered by hand.

Victor Roberts had some more details on the IBM to Ozzie translation. Apparently IBM disks come in numerous flavors of formatting. Specifically, Single Sided 8 Sector/Track, SS 9 S/T, Double Sided 8 S/T and DS 9 S/T. Under CP/M-86 the only flavor the Osborne double density disk drives like is Single Sided 8 Sectors/Track.

If you have an IBM with a different flavor, Archie Abmire from Richmond, VA suggests getting a communications board for the IBM (yeah, everything's extra on an IBM), wiring the two machines together and using one of the public domain terminal programs to transfer data. Note that with this solution, you can transfer data between the two regardless of which operating system is running on either machine. He's had excellent luck with OTERM 401.

Archie also takes exception to all our PEEKing and POKEing in MBASIC. He notes that peeks and pokes that work on the Osborne will not work anywhere else (even on newer Osborne's depending on their ROMs — See problem section), thereby creating non-transportable programs. In principal I agree, however in the case of printing,

cont. on page 18

the transportable solution (pairing PRINTS with LPRINTs qualified by IFs) the amount of new code generated for a simple function can be enormous. If your program is tight on space, it is probably a feasible alternative. All I can say is that when there's a choice like this, think carefully before taking the non-tansportable route. And by all means, don't get into bad habits by taking these shortcuts. The same holds true for direct references into your BIOS. Use CP/M's unchanging jump points down in low memory.

Archie also has an easy way to keep an inventory of WordStar files. XDIR has an undocumented feature that allows you to redirect its output to a disk file. For example:

```
A>XDIR B: filename
```

Note that the spaces in this example are important.

Flipping Floppies

Alan Chattaway wrote a wonderful, long letter about many things, starting with the flippy challenge. To briefly recap, Flippy disks are created by taking a normal single sided disk and cutting appropriate holes in it so that the disk drive can write on the back of the disk when inserted upside down. Alan likes flipping and does it all the time, especially on his most used disks. This way he only has half the number of disks to carry around with him. Alan brings a wealth of magnetic recording experience with him to the computer world. From his experience, he says that if the back of your disk LOOKS polished then it IS polished. Apparently there is a big enough difference that even a lay person would notice. He thinks the same probably goes for lubrication.

His guess about floppy classification agrees with mine. They're probably all made the same way up until the very end. When they undergo final testing, those with the best results become double sided, double density. Even though the vast majority could be used that way, the largest demand is for Single Sided disks and so that's what the remainder get labeled as.

Of the different brands Alan has tried, here are his results. Verbatim was good except for price. Maxell were good until they started making them in the U.S., at which point several showed bad sectors on the good side (flip side always OK). A brand called Ectype were terrible on both sides, don't bother taking them even if they're free. Wabash only gave trouble on the flip side. BASF were good although "noisy." 3M are excellent on both sides and Alan uses them as his current standard brand. DEC disks seemed to fail early on in their lifetime. I personally recommend against DEC because of their stupid decision not to provide a formatting program with their Rainbow and other Systems, thereby "forcing" early customers to buy only their overpriced low quality disks. This is hardly what I would call a Professional attitude from Professionals (to quote their own TV ads). Finally, a brand called Opus is also OK except that there appear to be cosmetic (only) defects on the disks.

Alan then goes over already published ideas on IBM/Osborne disk compatibility and SuperCalc 52 to 80 column conversion. He is quick to point out that it's the IBM machine that has the problem of two incompatible Operating Systems. Finally he included a letter he sent directly to the ***FOGHORN*** covering a number of other general areas, which I'm sure you can find in this or a previous issue.

Hardware Replacment Parts

In the continuing hardware replacement saga, Art Ripley called with information about power supplies. Power/Mate Corp makes a power supply which is an exact replacement for the one in the Osborne 1. According to my 1981 Thomas Register, Power/Mate Corp is at 514 S. River, Hackensack, N. J. 07601 and their phone is 201-440-3100.

New Problems

This month starts with a "short" general question from Paul Harano of Southgate, Michigan. He would like a quick summary of the differences, limitations and compatibility between the various versions of the Osborne 1 ROM sets. (1.4 vs 1.43 vs 1.44). This sounds like an excellent subject for a separate article. Maybe one of the underemployed Osborne software people could make a contribution before their expertise moves too far away.

Along the same lines, Lawrence Stempnick of Troy, Michigan would like the 1.3 ROM POKE for turning CTRL/P ON and OFF inside of MBASIC. I previously gave an incorrect location in this column so I don't know if his trouble is being caused by my mistake or if the 1.3 ROM really needs a different POKE (my machine has the 1.43 ROM). To repeat one more time, the correct poke locations are 425CH, 4B8BH and 5559H. Simply put the ascii code corresponding to the character you want to have act as a CTRL/C inside MBASIC in each of these locations. Naturally, if you use a code that can't be generated from the keyboard, you've disabled the CTRL/C.

Although this column is primarily for software problems, I do make exceptions for topics of general interest. I've received a number of letters asking about interfaces to 8" floppy drives, perhaps through the IEEE port. Does anyone out there know of any appropriate product, or better does anyone have one. Ideally, a review of such an interface would make up a separate article.

TJ Olney from Englewood, New Jersey wants to know why CTRL/Z doesn't clear the screen for him while using ZCPR. He also wants to know if he can get another character (perhaps a white box) to be the cursor, instead of the normal underscore. I know that there have been a number of articles on getting the cursor to blink. Could there be an easy, corrolary solution that will get a blinking white box instead (alternating with the character it covers)? Finally, why does the cursor in WSPAT2 only blink when next to an underline?

Thomas McEnroe from San Gabriel, Calif who does a lot of writing about the British economy wants to know how to get his Epson MX-80 to print the British pound symbol (you know, that funny "L"). He says the printer can print it, but there's no corresponding symbol on the keyboard. My experience is that you can set a printer from the normal US character set to the British character set either with hardware switches or a software initialization. The only difference between these two sets is that the US "#" sign is converted to the British "L." Therefore, try setting your printer to British mode and put a "#" sign anywhere in your file where you want the British pound.

The Z80 vs 8080 Battle

As promised last month here is a listing of David Fox's 8080 version of the fgets() and puts() functions for Software Toolwork's C/80 compiler. Please note that if you're using someone else's C compiler, you'll probably have to modify this code so that arguments are pushed onto the stack from right to left instead of left to right as below. You will also probably want to refer to my previous columns for Curt Gilchrist's Z80 versions of the same code. In an average program, you probably won't notice any difference between David's, Curt's or anyone else's versions of these functions. It is only in those programs that make extensive use of them (i.e. I/O bound) that you may notice a difference, and even then, only if you're paying attention.

```
#define   FILE int
/* fgets(s, n, fdesc) reads n-1 characters, or up to a new-line (which is
retained), whichever come first, from the file specified by fdesc into
s. s is null terminated. fgets returns its first argument. Returns NULL
on EOF. */

char *
fgets( s, n, fdesc )
char *s;
int n, fdesc;
{
/*   char *t;
/*   int i, c;
/*
/*   t=s;
/*   for ( i=0; (c=getc(fdesc)) != '\n'; ++i, ++s )
/*   {     if ( c==EOF) return(NULL);
/*         *s=c;
/*         if ( i==n-1 )
/*         {
```

⇨

```
/*              *s = '\0';      /* need to ungetc(c); here */
/*              return(t);
/*          }
/*    }
/*    *s = c;
/*    *++s = '\0';
/*    return(t);
*/
#asm
; Assembly Language version 18 Aug 83
        LXI         H,2
        DAD         SP
        MOV         C,M
        INX         H
        MOV         B,M             ; fdesc into b,c
        INX         H
        MOV         D,M             ; n into d,e
        DCX         D
        INX         H
        MOV         A,M
        INX         H
        MOV         H,M
        MOV         L,A             ; s into h,l
        PUSH        H
        PUSH        H
fg.lp:
        MOV         A,E
        ORA         D
        JZ          fg.d1           ; return if n == 0
        PUSH        D
        PUSH        B
        CALL        getc
        POP         B
        MOV         A,H
        ANA         L
        CMA
        ORA         A
        JZ          fg.eof          ; return on EOF
        MOV         A,L             ; char into A
        POP         D
        POP         H
        MOV         M,A
        INX         H
        PUSH H                      ; save new s
        CPI         10
        JZ          fg.d1           ; check for \n
        DCX         D               ; decrement n
        JMP         fg.lp
fg.eof:
        POP         H
        XRA         A
        MOV         M,A
        POP         B
        MOV         H,A
        MOV         L,A             ; return 0
        RET
fg.d1:
        POP         H
        XRA         A
        MOV         M,A             ; terminate string
        POP         H
                                    ; compiler adds return
#endasm
}
fputs( s, fd ) /* Copy s to file fd. Added 4 Oct 83 */
char *s;
FILE fd;
{
/* while( *s != '\0' )
/* putc( *s++, fd );
*/
#asm
; Assembly Language version 18 Aug 83
        LXI         H,2
        DAD         SP
        MOV         C,M
        INX         H
        MOV         B,M             ; fd into b,c
        INX         H
        MOV         A,M
        INX         H
        MOV         H,M
        MOV         L,A             ; s into h,l
fp.st:
        MOV         A,M
        ORA         A
        RZ
        INX         H
        PUSH        H
        MOV         L,A
        MVI         H,0
        PUSH        H               ; *s onto stack
        PUSH        B
        CALL        putc
        POP         B
        POP         H               ; ignore return value
        POP         H
        POP         H
        JMP         fp.st
#endasm
}
```

One final note on the above routines. David says that fgets() has a minor bug in which it will return a NULL indicating EOF instead of the last line in a file, if the file's last line is not terminated by <CR><LF>.

More Free Info

Let me finish off this column with the next in what is becoming a series of information sheets available for the price of a SASE. This one comes to us courtesy of Willie Mays from Las Vegas. He has three sheets of notes on converting an MPI 51S floppy drive for use with the Osborne 1. Please note that these are hardware patches (soldering, etc) and not for the faint at heart. They're here for the asking but don't blame me when your good friend goes snap, crackle and pop when you plug him in. Personally, I prefer Mission Peak System's plug compatible exchange disks.

* * * * * * *

LOOKING FOR A LOCAL GROUP?

For the name(s) of Affiliated Member Organization(s) or other local group(s) closest to you, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

First Osborne Group (FOG)
P. O. Box 3474
Daly City, CA 94015-0474
United States of America

Join the Fun and Learn More!!

ARTICLES

MCI MAIL

by Burt L. Fielding

Each of you has most likely been bombarded with commercial messages via your television, and other media, regarding the new postal system for the U.S.A. The new system, according to the advertisements is MCI Mail but the commercials just do not get the point across to the average TV watcher with a computer and a modem. However, one of the members of our user's group, SMOG (Santa Maria Osborne Group) took the time to call MCI's freight-free number, 800-424-6677, and found exactly what each of you who is reading this will find. 1.If you do not live in a large metropolitan area, and are plagued by the tool calls when you send a document by modem, MCI Mail has a toll-free access number for your use, 800-322-7751. 2.The cost for sending 7500 characters, regarded as an MCI "ounce", is only one, yes, one (1) dollar if the letter is going to another MCI subscriber! 3.To subscribe to MCI Mail, either call the 800-424-6677 number during the normal working day hours; use your modem and call 800-323-7751 which will permit you to type <REGISTER> after the preliminaries of contact; or write to MCI Mail Customer Support, Box 1001, 1900 M Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036

If your letter is to go to someone who does not have a computer and modem (heaven forbid), or who is not an MCI Mail subscriber, then MCI Mail will request an address (not a P.O. Box number) and the zipcode for the area in which your recipient lives. The company sends your letter via telephone to one of their strategically located MCI Mail offices — the office with the zipcode closest to the one given on your letter. A hard copy of your letter is made with great haste and sent via the U.S. Mail to the addressee in one of MCI Mail's distinctive orange envelopes. This service may be obtainrd for only $2.00 per MCI "ounce". For a 'hand delivered' Over-Night Letter, MCI charges $6.00 — gets the letter to its destination by noon of the following day. They also have a Four-Hour Letter; so, this service is quite complete.

In addition MCI Mail offers letterhead/signature service and a benefit where MCI stores all your documents with almost no time limit for $20/year and $10/month respectively. There is NO registration fee, NO monthly maintance fee, NO fee for receiving a document either by mail or electronically, NO storage fee, NO minimums, NO connect time charges, for MCI Mail's standard service!

When you register with MCI Mail, you will receive extensive printed data which will assist you in reading incoming documents, sending letters or files, understanding your options, or learning where to get help if needed. Further, you will be assigned "YOUR USER NAME" and "YOUR PASSWORD" along with your customer number and "YOUR MCI MAIL ID". If you register for MCI Mail with a modem, you will be required to give your Social Security Number and your mother's maiden name. Other questions after registration are optional.

With this system you may edit data you are sending, you may send files which you wrote using WordStar (as long as you use HARD carriage returns) and Dow Jones News Retrieval is available through MCI Mail. This, purported to be the nation's new postal system, is ideally suited to Osborne owners who wish to keep in touch while on a business trip; it is a perfect adjunct to the best portable computer yet seen. Frequently, one should contact MCI and look to see if a message is waiting in your INBOX. Most of us have one or a maximum of two mail deliveries during each week, But with MCI Mail you are offered an infinite number of deliveries each day. You also have storage of unsent messages under DRAFT, and your sent message will be viewed in your OUTBOX. Also you have DESK, CREATE, READ, SCAN, MENU, ACCOUNT, ANSWER, EDIT, NEXT, PRINT, SEND, HELP and EXIT commands to give you the flexibility required to register with MCI Mail — you'll never know what's waiting in your INBOX if you don't — and the price is certainly right!

* * * * * * *

MYLOGO

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Al de la Torre

Are you having problems with diskettes that aren't "coffee proof"? Do BDOS errors get you down? Does seeing that damn Osborne logo every time you start WordStar get old after a year? Or maybe even after a month?

DEAR ABBY: "Other than erasing the AUTOST.COM program off of the disk, is there anything an oldfashioned girl like me can do?

"Yes VIRGINIA there is."

"I phoned a personal friend of mine who works for "The Portable Affliction" magazine. He was just finishing his physiotherapy session. Seems he was foolish enough to try and carry it the length of an airport terminal in Afganistan. Anyway that's another story."

"He suggested modifying the AUTOST.COM program so a personal logo which you create will be displayed when you "cold boot" a diskette. The only thing you need which did not come with your Osborne is "OSBOARD 1". This is a graphics program sold by Osborne for $50.00. The following is his simple step-by-step procedure for the process."

1 — Take a blank formatted diskette and place it in drive B:.

2 — Copy the following 3 programs from your CP/M utilities diskette onto it:

    ASM.COM
    LOAD.COM
    SETUP.COM

3 — Place your "Osboard" diskette in drive A: and draw any logo you like in "80 COLUMN MODE" (choice 1 on menu) DO NOT USE DIM CHARACTERS!

4 — Save the logo to diskette in drive b:.

5 — Use the CONVERT.COM utility which comes on the "OSBOARD" diskette and convert the logo file you have just created into an assembly language file called "MYLOGO".

6 — Remove "OSBOARD" and place your WordStar diskette into DRIVE A:.

7 — Create a file on drive B: called "MYLOGO.ASM" using the Non-document mode of WordStar.

8 — Copy the autost.asm program listing which begins on page 247 of the blue Osborne Users Manual, WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

Many "L's" look just like the numeral "1". The following are the ONLY places in the listing where there are "1's":

They are all in the operand position of the line in which they appear (the third column).

— 1bh in the escape equate
— 100h in the ORG statement at start of program section
— 01 in the LHLD statement at start of program section
— 1,00 in the MVI statement at start of program section
— 16H in the SUI statement at start of program section
— b,10 in the LXI statement just above the move: label

You must omit the 10 lines which follow the SHLD statement in the ";start of program" section. This will leave you with the label START: at the beginning of the line immediately below the SHLD statement line.

Do not copy any of the program after the LOGO: label.

9 — Perform a ^KS now so you don't loose all the work you've just done.

10 — Perform a ^KY on the line where "LOGO:" appears, your cursor should now be directly beneath a semicolon (;).

11 — Use ^KR to read the "MYLOGO" assembly language file you created earlier into this file.

12 — You will now have approximately one zillion lines which begin with DB and have a 66 for every other number.

13 — Go to the first of these lines and use ^C to scan through all of them.

14 — You should have noticed at some point toward the end a repeating symmetry of lines with only 32,66,32,66,32,66...etc.

15 — Use the ^KB to mark the beginning of the second line of this repetitious pattern.

16 — Perform a ^QC to go to the end of your file and mark the end with a ^KK.

17 — Perform a ^KY to delete this block.

18 — Go to the beginning of the DB area and use ^QA (find and replace) to remove all occurrences of ",66". (DO NOT INCLUDE QUOTATION MARKS.) When asked for options specify N1000, (replace without asking and perform 1000 times). Repeat with ^L until you reach the end of file.

19 — Perform ^KD. You now need to create another file which will be read into this one shortly.

20 — Again, use the Non-Document Mode to create this new file which is to be named: SP (stands for spaces).

21 — SP consists of four lines, all identical, which contain 12 "32's" as follows:

```
DB 32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32
DB 32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32
DB 32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32
DB 32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32,32
```

22 — Be sure to end the last line with a <cr>.

23 — In order to simplify the next steps you will need to established the following SFK's (special function keys):
on key 1: `^QFDB<CR>9<CR>^QS^KRSP<CR>^X^X^X^X`
on key 2: `^I^X^QS`

24 — Now open MYLOGO.ASM (still in Non-document mode) and place the cursor at the beginning of the first DB line.

25 — Use ^1 until you reach the end of file.

26 — Go back to the first DB line and use ^2 until you reach the end of file. (This one takes a bit of key tapping. I hold the key down a second or two and then allow the display to catch up.)

27 — Insert the label "logo:" (WITH NO QUOTATION MARKS) on the first DB line. (It should be on the left margin and there should be blanks between the colon (:) and the first DB.

28 — Once again go to the first DB line and use ^QA (find and replace) to find all occurrences of: "27". Replace with: "27,27". (DO NOT INCLUDE QUOTATION MARKS) For option: specify N1000. (Use ^L to end of file if there are more than 1000.)

29 — Add the following DB statement, aligned and directly beneath the last DB line, at the end of the file:

```
DB '$'
```

30 — On the next line write:

```
END <cr>
```

(Be sure there is a <cr> after END.)

31 — If you desire to use this program for one other than your CP/M system diskette you will now need to go to the "filename:" section and change 'help' to the name of the program you wish to autostart. Be sure to change the "length of command" number to correspond with the number of letters in your file name. example:

for WordStar the line would read....

```
DB 02,'WS',0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
```

(check that filename, in this case WS, is capitalized and within SINGLE quotes)

32 — You may also wish to modify "message to print under logo". Use the same precautions.

33 — You are now ready to assemble and load your customized autostart file.

34 — Follow the directions on page 253 and 255 and you will have a file called "MYLOGO.COM". Rename this to "AUTOST.COM" and you are ready to place it on the desired diskette.

35 — If you experienced an error while attempting to assemble your file the most probable cause was a spelling (or typing) error. This usually happens while copying the program from the users manual. Carefully go over what you have typed and be sure your file ended with a <cr>.

The following explanations correspond to the like numbers which appear in the step-by-step instruction sequence for customizing AUTOST.COM.

1 — Placing diskettes onto the drives as listed will minimize the amount of diskette swapping.

2 — These programs are essential in order to complete the listed modification. A blank diskette was suggested to eliminate possible lack of space or data loss.

3 — 80 column mode is necessary because of the way in which files are saved by "Osboard". Dim characters can not be used by AUTOST without major program modification. If there was a 128 column mode it would save about half the work involved in this modification procedure. The reason for this is because the autostart program is written for a screen setup of 128 logical characters. (If you want to verify this, use SETUP and configure one of your diskettes which uses autostart to 52 logical, then cold boot it). Since most of us maintain this setup specification, I wrote the modification to adhere to it. If you wish to modify AUTOST for 52 column mode and eliminate steps 19-25 inclusive of the instruction sequence.

4 — All data in this modification should reside on diskette in drive B:.

5 — Instructions for using CONVERT.COM are in "OSBOARD" documentation. The assembly version facilitates interfacing the data with the AUTOST program. The name of the file (and all others in this article) was chosen at random. You may substitute any you feel comfortable with.

6 — Self explanatory.

7 — The non-document mode is necessary for program listings. It does not insert spaces and other garbage which the assembler will chock on. The file extension of ASM is necessary for the assembler to do its job.

8 — The tab key will facilitate entering this program and at the same time, influence you to keep all the portions of an assembly language statement (label, mnemonic, operand, comment) in their proper location. The lines which were omitted are used to convert character data to graphics. They are unnecessary since the data we read into this file is already in graphics format.

9 — Insurance.

10 — It is easier to erase the label and enter it later than to try and keep it in its proper location.

11 — Refer to users manual if unfamiliar with ^KR.

12 — The format in which "Osboard" saves data inserts a flag after every character which toggles the bright/dim switch. The 66's are these flags and interfere with the operation of AUTOST in its present form.

13 — Self explanatory.

14 — This sequence of numbers comprises the blank area at the bottom of the screen. The only effect they have on the program is to slow it down, since time is spent putting invisible characters to the screen. If you want to admire your logo for a longer time with each cold boot, leave them in. If you drew your logo at the bottom of the screen you may not have any blank spaces to delete.

15-16 — Self explanatory.

17 — Deleting these unnecessary characters also speeds up the elimination of 66's which is quite a slow process as you will see.

18 — It is necessary to eliminate ,66 (comma in front) instead of 66, (comma after) otherwise a 66 will be left at the end of each line.

19-20 — This is simply closing the file you are working on and opening another.

21 — Remember that this is for 128 character screen. Since "OSBOARD" can only draw in 80 column mode it is necessary to insert 48 blanks at the end of every line to make it 128 characters. Creating a file and reading them in is necessary because I'm too lazy to have done this if I had to type in 48 "32's" at the end of every line. (32 is decimal equivalent of the ASCII blank space character.)
22 — This is needed so assembler is not confused.
23 — Function key setup is explained in the users manual.
Key number 1 is the sequence of instructions which automatically:
A---finds the end of a line
B---reads in the blanks from the (SP)aces file
Key number 2 tabs the DB statements to their proper location.
24 — Best placement of cursor is just before first DB.
25 — Each DB line has 10 characters. The ^QF portion of this function key places the cursor at the beginning of every ninth DB. This is the proper location for the insertion of blank spaces from the SP file. After you have pressed this key the first time there should be 8 lines above the inserted spaces. They are easy to spot because they are shorter than the spaces which were just inserted.
26 — I only hold down the key for a second or two. When the video can't keep up with what's happening, I'm afraid things are going too fast and may create errors. At this point too much work has been done to risk losing it. I'll have to try it on a sample file some time and see if I can just keep the function key pressed till it reaches the end of file.
27 — This is merely replacing the label which was erased in step 10.
28 — The 27's which may or may not appear in your data, depending on which graphics characters you used, are ESC characters and are ignored by the display unless written 2 at a time.
29 — This is the end of file marker for logo.
30 — This tells assembler where end of program is.

If you forget the <cr> after END, the assembler will not even give you an error message. It will however, take a coffee break and not come back.
31-33 — Self explanatory.
34-35 — It is beyond the scope of my abilities to explain how to deal with all the idiosyncrasies of Mr. Assembler in a simplified manner.

Many thanks to Dale Peterson, also a member of GCOG, for his invaluable help in debugging and refining this program modification.

Al de la Torre is a member of the Affiliated Member Organization, Gold Coast Osborne Group. The group's meetings are always listed in the ***CALENDAR*** *section.*

* * * * * * *

Using DU.COM (Part 3)

by Doug Hurst

There is an announcement prior to jumping off into the last of this three part series. First, notice that the title does not reference the version. Previously, I had entitled the articles USING DU-V77.COM. It turns out I have been using version 7.5 and the documentation for 7.7. A friend wrote and told me that his version 7.7 did not display the free bytes when he displayed the MAP using the M command. I went and checked and sure enough I discovered that I had the previously mentioned version 7.5. But, my version 7.7 does list the free bytes. Not sure what the problem was/is. Rest assured, there are only minor differences between the two. If you do find other differences, take a few minutes to write the ***FOGHORN*** and make them known.

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Okay, in our last episode, Tom Mix and Bob Steele were just about to be crushed by the oncoming train when Tom said, "Hey Bob, did you know that when you're using DU.COM you can change ASCII material directly without have to do a lot of conversion to hexidecimal?"

Well, the train was turned to a siding by Tom's and Bob's friend Don "Red" Berry. So, the trio went to Bob's house to see if Tom's statement was true. Remember the CH command? It went something like this:

```
:CH20,45,4E,44<CR>
```

or

```
:CH20,45,4E,44;w;d<CR>
```

(if you want to write it to the disk permanently and redump the sector to the screen)

would produce END starting at address 20 of the current sector.

or

```
:CH00-7f,00<CR>
```

would fill the entire sector with 00's.

The actual command used above is the C command, which may be followed by either H or A. Here is an example of the CA:

```
:CA20,END<CR>
```

or

```
:CA20,END;w;d<CR>
```

would produce END starting at address 20 of the current sector. Notice that you do not place commas between the characters. Same result as the top CH example above, but much easier.

If you lack confidence concerning your changes, you might prefer:

```
:CA20,END;d<CR>
```

(which would make the change and redump the sector to the screen)

Then if you were satisfied with the change:

`:w` (will write the changes permanently to the disk)

Why not just load the file into WordStar and change it the real easy way? If the file were pure text that would likely be the way to do it. But what about text strings embedded in .COM or other object/pseudo object type files like .OVR or .INT. A good example is WordStar's opening logo. I'm sure you remember that as WordStar loads, it displays the terminal type, printer type, communications protocol and type of list device. Using DU, you could, for example, easily change the terminal type by locating the present terminal type, and using the CA command to enter the new terminal type. Let's try it just for practice. The following is a sector from my WordStar 3.0 which shows the terminal type. Notice below how I reach this track/sector in a logical sequence by first searching the directory starting at allocation group 00 and dumping the contents to the screen. Then I jump to the first allocation group of the file I want to modify (WS.COM). Then, since I know from loading WordStar that the terminal type is Heath H89/19, I search for that ASCII string. After finding this string, the contents are again dumped to the screen. Finally, trying to keep screen centering in mind, the ASCII string is changed using the CA command:

```
:g0<CR>
G=00:00, T=1, S=1, PS=0

:=WS      COM<CR>
```

or

```
:fws.com<CR>
= AT 0C
G=00:04, T=1, S=5, PS=4

:d<CR>
00   00575320 20202020   20434F4D 0100000A   *.WS      COM....*
10   81828384 85868788   89000000 00000000   *................*
20   0053504C 53504C53   50FC5350 01000080   *.SPLSPLSPLSP....*
30   8A8B8C8D 8E8F9091   92939495 96979899   *................*
40   0053504C 53504C53   50FC5350 01000010   *.SPLSPLSPLSP....*
50   9A9B9C9D 9E9FA0A1   A2000000 00000000   *......!''.......*
60   004D4149 4C4D5247   454F5652 00000068   *.MAILMRGEOVR....*
70   A3A4A5A6 A7A8A900   00000000 00000000   *#$%&'()........*
```

```
:g81;=H89;d<CR>
G=81:00, T=26, S=65, PS=64
= AT 21
G=81:01, T=26, S=66, PS=65

00   45202020 20202020   0F002020 20202020   *E        ..      *
10   20486561 74682f5a   656e6974 68204838   * Heath/Zenith H8*
20   392f3139 20202020   20202020 0f002020   *9/19          .. *
30   8A8B8C8D 8E8F9091   92939495 96979899   *   EPSON MX-100 *
40   0053504C 53504C53   50FC5350 01000010   *W/GRAFTRAX      *
50   9A9B9C9D 9E9FA0A1   A2000000 00000000   *..     No communi*
60   004D4149 4C4D5247   454F5652 00000068   *cations protocol*
70   A3A4A5A6 A7A8A900   00000000 00000000   *     ..        Pri*

:CAOF,Doug's sophmoric writer;w;d;d<CR>

00 45202020 20202020 0F002020 20202020 *E .. D*
10 20486561 74682f5a 656e6974 68204838 *oug's sophmoric *
20 392f3139 20202020 20202020 0f002020 *writer .. *
30 8A8B8C8D 8E8F9091 92939495 96979899 * EPSON MX-100 *
40 0053504C 53504C53 50FC5350 01000010 *W/GRAFTRAX *
50 9A9B9C9D 9E9FA0A1 A2000000 00000000 *.. No communi*
60 004D4149 4C4D5247 454F5652 00000068 *cations protocol*
70 A3A4A5A6 A7A8A900 00000000 00000000 * .. Pri*
```

Like the CH command, CA too can work on an individual address, or fill a predefined number of spaces.

Tom and Bob thought this was terrific. Red was not impressed however. Red said, "What I want to do is read a sector, save it in RAM then write it to another sector." I wish DU had a feature like that. Well, I couldn't tell if Tom was gonna kill Red or if he just had to go to the bathroom real bad, but boy was he excited. "Red!", he said, "Haven't you heard of the < and > commands?" "Nope!", said Red. (Red didn't talk much). "Well, you can" said Tom, "and here's how."

The safest way to experiment with this is to go to the directory track by typing the following:

```
:g0;d <CR>
```

Now, type

`:+;d;/<CR>` (That's skip fwd, dump and repeat)

Sectors of the directory track will begin to stream by you on the screen. Get ready to press ^C once you see a sector that is filled with hex E5's and ASCII e's. When you see such a sector, hit the ^C. Then type:

```
:d<CR>
```

You should see a complete sector dump that looks like this:

```
:d
00   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
10   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
20   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
30   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
40   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
50   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
60   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
70   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5   *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
```

Now, simply type:

```
:< <CR>
```

You will see nothing, but the current sector was just saved in RAM buffer.

Now, type:

```
CA00-7f,a;w;d;d<CR>
```

Having filled the entire 128 byte sector with ASCII a's, you should now be faced with:

```
00   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
10   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
20   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
30   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
40   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
50   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
60   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
70   61616161 61616161   61616161 61616161   *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
```

cont. on page 24

Now, type:

```
:g0;=aaaaaaaaaaa;d<CR>
```

This will take you back to the start of the directory track and start searching for a string of ASCII a's, dumping the sector containing them when found. When everything has stopped, you should be right back at the sector you just filled with a's. Now, type:

```
:>;w;d;d<CR>
```

You should see this:

```
00  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
10  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
20  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
30  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
40  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
50  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
60  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
70  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  E5E5E5E5 E5E5E5E5  *eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee*
```

What you did, was to recall the sector you saved with the < command and write it back to the disk sector you filled with a's. I had you write back to the same sector because it is an important area on the disk. You could have performed this magic on any track/sector on the disk. Of course you know this can cause all kinds of problems if performed on certain tracks/sectors. SO BE CAREFUL and use a disk with either no files or inconsequential files on it when experimenting.

It is also important to notice here that I have used the W command in each case to write the sector to the disk permanently. This need not be done. If, for example, you enter:

```
CA00-7f,a;d;d<CR>
```

you will still see the following:

```
00  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
10  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
20  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
30  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
40  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
50  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
60  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
70  61616161 61616161  61616161 61616161  *aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*
```

But now enter the following:

```
-;+;d<CR>
```

Aha! It's right back to its original form, E5's and e's. Since we didn't write the sector permanently, and we read the previous sector and then the same sector again from the disk, the original values were retrieved. There is danger in one direction and frustration in the other. If you write the sector and didn't mean to you might ruin a program, or cause yourself to have to do a lot of tedious reentry. On the other hand, if you make a lot of required changes, and do not write them to the disk before changing sectors, you'll end up having to make them over. BE CAREFUL.

The boys should have all been happy now.

But Tom had to ruin it by making yet another demand of DU. He said, "All this is well and good, but what if I wipe out the directory track and can't reconstruct it because of a permanent read/write error on that track, what can I do?" Bob and Don were dumbfounded. Had no idea what to say or how to answer.

In their puzzling, none of the boys noticed as the masked man rode up. "Whoa Silver", he said, in a deep Clayton Moore type voice.

When the boys did notice the masked man, they all reached for their "irons". Before their hands were under the table, the masked man had them in his sights. "Relax men", he said, "I'm not a crook." No wait, that's the Richard Nixon impression. "Relax men, he said, "I'm not an outlaw." "I've come to help."

I bring news of the Y command. "The Y command?", said the boys in unison.

Yes, the Y command. It stands for Yank a sector into sequential memory. And you can yank several sectors into memory in succession. Let's assume you have wiped our your directory and cannot reconstruct it, but you have found the first sector of an important file and have looked at all the sectors following and feel the file is intact. Let's also assume that the file is five (5) sectors long. Here's the command:

```
:y;+;/5<CR>
```

(yank, skip forward 1 sector, repeat 5 times)

This is what will appear on the screen (I started at allocation group 4A):

```
LAST ADDR=307F
g=4A:01, T=15, S=66, PS=65
LAST ADDR=307F
g=4A:01, T=15, S=67, PS=66
LAST ADDR=30FF
g=4A:01, T=15, S=68, PS=67
LAST ADDR=31FF
g=4A:01, T=15, S=69, PS=68
LAST ADDR=327F
g=4A:01, T=15, S=70, PS=69
```

The five sectors were written into RAM starting at 3000h. They extend to address 327f.

So what do you do with it once it's in RAM? That depends on which version of DU you have. If you have the latest version 8.5, which is on the FOG RCP/M I think, you are in luck. This version has the K command which writes sequential memory to a disk file. What good will this do you say if your directory track is wiped out. It's still simple.

Once you have yanked the sectors into sequential memory, remove the disk with the damaged directory track and replace it with a good formatted disk. Type in the following:

```
:N
```

This will initialize the disk and reset the CP/M bit map. Now simply type in the following:

For version 8.5

```
:K[du:]filename.[ext]
```

[ ] means optional. Not required.

Where du: is the disk (if other than the default disk) and then the filename and extension (extension only if desired).

For version < 7.7

Your job of saving the file will be a bit more difficult. Also remember the numbers used pertain to the example yank above, yours will most likely be quite different. After you have yanked the five sectors into sequential memory and have written down the highest address used by the yank, exit DU and boot DDT or SID as follows:

```
A>=cf78DDT<CR>
DDT VERS 2.2
-
```

From here type the following:

```
-M3000,327F,100<CR>
```

After doing this, your file will now occupy memory from 0100h to 037Fh. Type:

```
-g0<CR>
```

Then save the file by typing:

```
A>SAVE 3 du:filename.ext<CR>
```

The file should be completely restored. If you have forgotten how to determine how many pages of hex memory to save after exiting DDT.COM, it's simple. Here's an example:

Yank address range:3000,5A7f
Move to 100h range:0100,2B7f
Round up left two:0100,2C00
Discard right two:01 2C
Convert to decimal:01 44
Subtract:44-01 = 43 (Save this amount)

Tom, Bob and Red, who had all been ecstatic, were starting to look sad. They thought as they rode off into the sunset, Geez! what they'd give for a Texas extension cord. You see, none of them had PowerPacs for their Ozzies, and no place to recharge them if they did. Time had come for another cattle drive with only their horses for company after sundown.

The boys have my sympathy. I'd die. I'd surely die.

P.S. Coming soon! A routine which can be written within WordStar (without enlarging it) that will Allow you to send any code to your dot matrix printer (similar to the way one of CHARTECH's secondary functions does). It uses an assembly language subroutine and DDT/SID. It's already up and running, but I want to make absolutely certain there will be no adverse effects before submitting it.

* * * * * * *

BOOK REVIEWS

OZDEX: An Index for the Blue Osborne Manual

reviewed by Benjamin H. Cohen

Someone has finally come out with a comprehensive index for the Osborne manual. *Osdex*, by Margaret Regis, was prepared by a user like you and me, frustrated with the lack of an index in the Osborne manuals. Unfortunately, *Osdex* contains references only to the page numbers in the blue bound version of 2/22/82. It would be nice if it also had page numbers for the older looseleaf version and for the newer gray version, but if you've got the blue manual, now you are in business.

Size of the *Osdex* pages is 5.5″ x 8.5″, just a smidge smaller than the manual itself. It's nicely typeset, and perfect bound with a blue cover just a shade lighter than the manual. Fifty three pages of listings contain references to what must be just about everything you could want to know that's to be found in the manual.

Listings are multiple, so just about wherever you think of looking, you'll find what you are looking for. For example, ^QV in WordStar moves the cursor to the location of the last block move or find operation. You can find it in the *Osdex* by looking under "QV", under the WordStar listing as "control QV command" and under "cursor last find command" and under "cursor source of last block or find". It's no great consequence that after "cursor last find command" only one of the five page listings listed under the other three entries is found, for the information in all five places is essentially the same.

Sometimes the listings are more comprehensive than the entries. For example, the "cursor left one character" under WordStar is followed by the parenthetical reference "(^H, ^S, or left arrow), followed by three page references. But the first of the three omits mention of ^H as a method for moving the cursor one character to the left in WordStar.

The price of *OZDEX*, by Margaret Regis, is $8.95 plus $1.00 for postage and handling. Local user groups can place an order for five or more copies and the publisher will pay the postage. Or you can order direct for faster service from Periscope Press, Box 6926, Santa Barbara, CA 93160.

[*Ben Cohen is President of Chicago's First Osborne Group and a frequent contributor to both the CFOG* ***PIP*** *and the* ***FOGHORN****. CFOG has recently joined FOG as an Affiliated Member Organization. You will now find the CFOG meetings in the* **CALENDAR** *section.*

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HARDWARE REVIEWS

FOOT SWITCH for KEYBOARD INPUTS

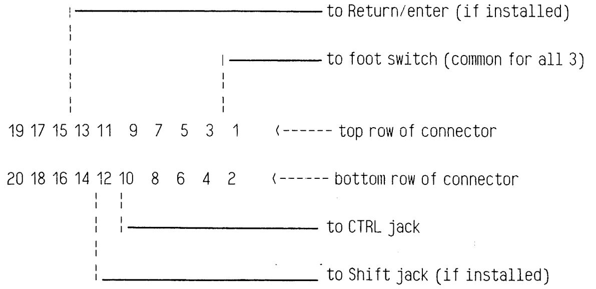
by Ron Coiner

If you have been having trouble with the CTRL key, i.e. locating it when typing WORDSTAR commands, or other keys; you may want to install a foot switch to duplicate the functions of the standard keys. Adding this foot switch is very low cost (about $6-7) if you are willing to do or to get a friend to help you do it. I have modified one of my Osborne computers, and am learning to use the foot switch instead of the CTRL key. You will need a foot switch with normally open contacts and some quick disconnect plugs. The best switch would be one from an old sewing machine or other office machine, because of the built in foot rest. You will need to be able to drill some holes and solder a few wires to complete the job.

I purchased from Radio Shack the following: cassette recorder remote foot switch PN 44-610 at $ 3.69, miniature phone jacks (3 in package) PN 274-251 at $1.19, and miniature phone plugs (2 in package) PN 274-286 at $1.29. You will need about 4' of speaker cable and some short pieces of stranded wire to make the connection. The coaxial wire and plug that comes with the cassette foot switch does not work, and you will have to replace it with a simple length of speaker cord or other side by side wire.

When you do the computer modification, turn off the power and carefully disconnect the keyboard connector from the computer front face. You will have to disassemble the keyboard to modify it. When you get yours apart, you can decide where the best place to install the wires will be.

I chose to put in all three jacks; one for the CTRL key, one for the Return/Enter keys and one for the SHIFT key. I also chose to connect the wires inside the keyboard to the connector pins on the back of the keyboard circuit card, where the wire harness between the keyboard and the computer is attached. I detached the harness from the connector, and located the proper pins to make the connections (see diagram). After drilling the proper size holes for the jacks at the top left side of the keyboard (while looking at the keys), I connected the wires at the base of the connector pins so as to allow the connector to be inserted as far as possible. This is perhaps not the best arrangement, but there is no good access on my blue case model to the key contacts. The connector on the blue Osbornes are arranged like the following (if you turn the keyboard on its face so that the cord exits out the top right):


to Return/enter (if installed)
to foot switch (common for all 3)
19 17 15 13 11 9 7 5 3 1
<------ top row of connector
20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2
<------ bottom row of connector
to CTRL jack
to Shift jack (if installed)

cont. on page 26

To remotely operate the CTRL key, connect one wire to pin 3 and the other to pin 12. If you install more than one jack for other functions, either follow the above or find the "Keyboard Scan Logic" or "Keyswitch Matrix" diagram in your Osborne book. It is 6 pages from the back of the dark blue book, page 354 in the newer gray book, or section 8 page 42 in the Technical manual. As you will see, you are switching the row and column together to simulate the contact closure. You connect to 3 and 12 for CTRL, 3 and 14 for Shift and 3 and 15 for Return and Enter. You can use an ohmmeter to check the correct pins by measuring resistance with and without the key (or the foot switch) depressed. Take care in soldering, keep solder off the top of the connector pins so you can put the connector back on. When the foot switch was first tried, I had problems with the right parenthesis (Shift,zero), as I obtained both the "greater than symbol" and the desired right parenthesis. After changing the wire to the foot switch, it worked fine. When you finish the wiring job and replace the harness, assemble the keyboard and carefully plug the harness into the computer.

I have found the foot switch to be of some value, although I generally find the Osborne keyboard is laid out nicely. The CTRL has proved useful in WordStar, SHIFT in dBASE II (to separate commands from variable names as suggested), and I'm not so sure about the return/enter. If you try it, but run into problems, give a call. I will try to help. Ron Coiner, (412) 864-0480 or 863-8707.

Ron Coiner is a member of TROG(Three Rivers Osborne Group). Their mailing address is P.O. Box 17306, Pittsburgh, PA. 15235.

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HARDWARE REVIEWS ***cont. on page 52***

SOFTWARE REVIEWS

Teaching is Easy

reviewed by Rich Slatta

One of the Osborne's virtues is its versatility. With an investment of less than $25, you can add to the Osborne's utility by turning it into a teaching machine. A well documented, easy (and fun) to use software program called **Teaching is Easy (TIE)** makes it possible.

When I look at software, I'm interested in 3 main things: 1) What does it do? 2) How well does it do it? 3) Is what it does worth the price? TIE is an integrated package that writes branching screens, such as would be used for a series of test questions. As the easy-to-follow introductory tutorial says, TIE "creates a series of screens, then displays those screens to a learner at the learner's own pace. TIE can be used by an employer to train a worker, an educator to instruct a student, or a parent to teach a child." TIE will score responses, keep track of point totals, repeat user responses from one screen to the next, and deliver hardcopy output if desired. These capabilities turn the Osborne into a full fledged computer assisted learning station.

⇨

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How well does TIE do its job? Very well and reasonably fast. The program works with only a few commands, is largely menu driven, and includes online help as well as 50 pages of documentation. It is also a very "safe" program--often asking the user "do you really want to to this?" When screens are being generated, they are saved immediately to disk--another safety feature. TIE works with either single or double density Ozzies and is easily configured for line lengths from 40 to 80.

The limitations and general feel of the program remind one of the "Zip" option of dBase II. No more than 21 lines can be entered on a single screen. Up to 10 different response choices can be listed on each screen, and each test or exercise can include up to 99 pages or screens. Only one test or exercise can be placed on a diskette--and anything previously on the disk will be erased when the program is initialized. (The user is warned that this is about to happen). For hardcopy, the default values are for Epson printers, but the program worked perfectly with my Daisywriter 2000.

With its limitations, TIE does its job very well. After reading through the documentation for 45 minutes, I loaded the program and wrote two exams for my college students. Screens are easily edited or changed, so the user need not worry unduly about mistakes. I can imagine any number of uses for TIE. An intro tutorial to the Ozzy would be a natural. By walking a new user through the features and limitations of the Osborne, TIE would permit the user to learn by doing--the best type of learning possible. I will use several TIE tests to monitor my college students in their reading and in-class comprehension.

Is TIE worth what you pay for it? Yes, Yes and many times more. I rate TIE a genuine bargain at less than $25. If the author chooses to upgrade the program, there are additional features that would add to its utility. The documentation includes a brief page of suggestions on how to plan exercises, but non-teachers will likely need more assistance. Another page or two on flowcharting, discovery-based learning, and CAL options (like sequence, choice, or repetition structure) are needed to maximize the package's usefulness. An optional screen that could be accessed from all other screens would be a welcome addition. Then a single screen could be designed for all unacceptable responses to all questions (such as entering 7 when only choices 1 through 5 exist). As it stands, each screen can branch only to one other screen. The options for displaying points earned and of reprinting user responses could have more formatting guidance. It takes some trial and error to keep lines from running into one another when using these options. Finally, the program includes no graphics capabilities.

In summary, I find that TIE delivers a tremendous teaching value for the money. It is easy to use, well documented, handles user error well, and has performed flawlessly. I can strongly commend its use to anyone with any teaching need. Set up a tutorial to remind yourself or to instruct others on how to use SuperCalc. Design instructional exercises for your kids. You'll find lots of uses, I'm sure, just as I have.

Teaching is Easy, version 1.0, 10/22/83, $24.95 from Ted Lewis, THL Software, Inc., 1006 Beatrice Dr., Orlando FL 32810, phone (305) 644-5467.

Rich Slatta teaches history at North Carolina State University at Raleigh. He also writes for computer magazines, including Family Computing, Link-Up, Portable Computer, and K-Power. He coordinates the Triangle dBaseII User's Group, which grew out of the Raleigh Osborne Computer Club.

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SeekEasy

reviewed by Byron Davies

Each of us was born with a personal computer, highly portable, with very facile and accessible I/O ports, a lot of memory, and with easily modified software. Unfortunately, the memory is mostly RAM with an uncertain refresh rate and poor write-to-disk capability. If this computer, or brain, were upgraded with total recall, photographic imagery, and an improved ALU we would have little need for Ozzie and friends.

But it's an imperfect world, and we do rely on Ozzie for help. He's not much help, however, when we ask ourselves questions like, "Where did I read that thing on the new gadget for stranifor, or whatever it was called." Of course, we could sit at the keyboard and enter everything that happens every day, every thing we hear and read, in rigid format with every possible key indexed for eventual retrieval of anything we might possibly need someday...

SeekEasy is a bit more practical. It's a free form database, or information filing and retrieval program, published by Correlation Systems, 81 Rockinghorse Road, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274 (213) 833 3462. It costs $235 including a demo; if you try the demo disk and don't like it the full capability unopened disk is returnable. Or the demo and manual are available for $15, which is credited to the price of the full program should you decide to buy it. Or, for postage or a phone call, you can get a descriptive (and entertaining) brochure.

"Free form" is the important concept here. Input is free form. Queries are free form. Spelling is free form. SeekEasy will pull up exact matches for words of one or two letters; it will pull up anything that includes any three consecutive characters you ask for, and a lot of other stuff that's progressively farther off, including permutations of your input characters. The search algorithm is more sophisticated, but that's the gist of it.

Each item or entry is limited to two screen lines — about 150 characters — but items may be easily tied together. The maximum number of items recalled per query is 42, by which time the subjects can be rather far from the query unless you have a large number of similar items, any or all of which could be "hits."

Installing SeekEasy is a delight for the simple-minded. Menus lead through a trail of choices of keys for editing and control functions; you don't have to look up your printer hex codes — you can try what's offered and see if it works; if it doesn't, you're switched to the other and GIVEN THE CORRECT CODES! Delightful! Housekeeping utilities provide for editing, deleting, "neatening" the disk assignments, combining files, printing, and so on. The manual is a model of clarity and completeness; because the program is so transparent and straightforward there's not much to belabor — several paragraphs cover CP/M procedures enough so that anyone who should happen to want to run SeekEasy on a new machine before he learns anything else could do it.

The program was developed by an engineer who got tired of being overwhelmed by piles of IEEE Transactions and similar journals. It's particularly good at tasks like summarizing many tables of contents, or organizing a record or stamp collection, or a lot of books or photos or slides, or just a lot of unrelated facts or random thoughts.

Using SeekEasy still requires you to sit down and enter stuff. BUT — a big BUT — you don't have to learn an involved command structure and design forms and define field length and specify field type and get frustrated by error messages. Just do it.

Byron Davies is the President of San Francsico FOG, an Affiliated Member Organization. SF FOG meets the 4th Thursday of each month at St. Aidan's Church, corner of Goldmine Drive and Diamond Height Blvd. Library copying is available to FOG members starting about 7:00pm

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CALENDAR

Under this heading you will find the listing of activities and events of Affiliated Member Organizations. Listings are the responsibility of organization officers. Officers must have corrections into FOG office by the first of the month prior to publication (July 1st for the August issue). For a list of other groups, see *"**CONTACTS**"* later in this issue, in back issues starting January, 1983, or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the FOG offices. Please include a note with your geographical area.

Day	Date	City	A.M.O.	Time	Address	Contact No.
1st Su	May 6	Syracuse, NY	82-SOUP	1:00pm	Location Varies — Confirm	315-471-1405
1st M	May 1	Oberlin, OH	9-^Ob^Os	7:00pm	Rice Faculty Lounge, Oberlin College	216-775-8290
	May 7	Milwaukee, WI	22-MilwOG	7:00pm	Engin & Math Science Bldg. Rm E495, Univ. of WI	414-691-4241
	May 7	Jackson, MS	58-MCPM	6:00pm	R & D Center, 3825 Ridgewood Rd,, 5th Fl Conf Rm.	601-366-0928
	May 7	Menlo Park,CA	68-SMOG^3	7:30pm	Crane Place, 1331 Crane	415-326-2543
	May 7	Tacoma, WA	72-TOG	7:00pm	Pierce Co. Library (Basement Mtg Rm) 404 Garfield So.	206-752-5582
	May 7	Bloomington, IN	87-IOU	7:30pm	Indiana Univ, Jordon Hall, Room 440	812-339-4754
1st Tu	May 1	Santa Maria, CA	42-SMOG	7:00pm	Allstate Savings & Loan, 401 South Broadway	805-937-1128
	May 1	Oakwood, OH	79-DOUG	7:30pm	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Dixon Ave.	513-932-6990
1st W	May 2	Stockton, CA	11-SOG	7:00pm	Allen's Computerland 4343 Pacific Ave.	209-475-8440
	May 2	Sacramento, CA	61-SOG	7:00pm	SMUD Training Bldg, 1708 59th St	916-422-3260
	May 2	Enid, OK	77-FOG/E	5:30pm	706 W. Maine	405-233-9103
	May 2	Rockford, IL	84-GROG	7:00pm	Rock Valley College, Student Center Rm 134	815-398-1280
1st Th	May 3	Santa Clara, CA	1-1st FOG SV	7:30pm	5201 Patrick Henry Drive (loading dock entrance)	415-856-0954
	May 3	Denver, CO	4-DOG	8:00pm	Masonic Temple, 3550 Federal Blvd.	303-759-0359
	May 3	Dhahran, Saudi Arabia	33-DPoG		ARAMCO Mgmt Training Center	874-4798
	May 3	W. Lafayette, IN	34-HOG	7:00pm	CONFIRM	317-743-5275
	May 3	Auckland, New Zealand	53-NZOG	7:30pm	20 Kingsley Avenue	659-738
	May 3	Santa Rosa, CA	56-No. Bay FOG	7:00pm	Valley Oak Park Rec Hall, 2600 Northcoast	707-546-0145
	May 3	Sitka, AK	83-BUG	7:30pm	Human Services Center, Moller Dr.	907-747-5372
alter Th	May 3	Maitland, FL	20-CFIOG	7:00pm	Lake Faith Villas, Maitland Blvd	305-298-8576
each Th	May 3	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
1st F	May 4	Wiesbaden, Germany	24-AGOG	7:00pm	Hainerberg Cafeteria	0612-213276
1st Sa	May 5	Lexington, KY	32-KOG	12:00n	Room 128, Erickson Hall, University of Kentucky	606-623-1884
2nd Su	May 13	Miami, FL	26-GCOUG	1:00pm	F.I.U Tamiami Campus, Building DM, Room 100	305-255-7827
	May 13	Amarillo, TX	28-POG	2:30pm	Downtown Branch Amarillo Public Library	806-355-7509
	May 13	Ketchikan, AK	89-KCPM	fig4:00pm	320 Bawden Suite 101	907-225-6476
2nd M	May 14	Fayetteville, AR	23-AFOG	7:00pm	Alternates between Ft. Smith — CONFIRM	501-575-2980
	May 14	Fresno, CA	35-FROG	7:00pm	Village Computer Sy stems, 3081 W. Bullard	209-222-2233
	May 14	Evansville, IN	46-E-OSBUG	6:30pm	Oaklyn Branch Evansville Library, Oakhills & Lynch	812-479-5108
	May 14	Toronto, Ont	49-TASOFOG	7:00pm	CONFIRM	416-889-2072
	May 14	Charlotte, NC	71-LOGIC	7:30pm	CONFIRM	704-377-1154
2nd Tu	May 8	Ames, IA	12-Midwest FOG	7:00pm	IA State (old engineering annex) W. Lincoln Way	515-266-8764
	May 8	Memphis, TN	15-MOG	7:00pm	34th Fl., Clark Bldg., Federal Express Conf. Rm	901-767-2350
	May 8	Mill Valley, CA	31-MOG	7:00pm	West America Bank, Strawberry Village	415-892-2713
	May 8	Lincoln, NE	39-Lincoln LOG	7:30pm	Smith Curtis Bldg., NE Wesleyan Univ., 52nd & St. Paul	402-472-1392
	May 8	Omaha, NE	44-OACP/MUG	7:00pm	CONFIRM	402-348-0440
	May 8	Montreal, PQ	73-Microcozm	6:30pm	AES Data, 100 Alexis Nihon Blvd, Ste. 810	514-849-7761
2nd W	May 9	Oakland, CA	3-East Bay FOG	6:00pm	B & B Electric, 2832 Ford Street	415-834-9346
	May 9	Vancouver, BC	17-VPCC	7:30pm	Hastings Community Center, 3096 East Hastings	604-298-6990
	May 9	Danbury, CT	40-DOG	7:00pm	Preferred Utilities Mfg, 11 South St	203-775-1102
	May 9	Clayton, MO	55-SLOG	7:00pm	Mid County Library, Central & MD	314-862-6239

Continued next page

Day	Date	City	A.M.O.	Time	Address	Contact No.
	May 9	Oklahoma City, OK	67-OKLOG	7:00pm	3400 N.W. Grand Blvd	405-843-5925
	May 9	Cleveland, OH	75-COG	7:00pm	Trinity Cathedral House, East 22nd & Euclid Ave.	216-871-2532
	May 9	Athens, GA	81-COG	7:30pm	Athens Federal Savings, Barnett Shoals Road	404-353-2127
	May 9	W. Hempstead, NY	88-LION	7:30pm	Adelphi Univ Cont Ed Ctr, Eagle Ave	212-327-2321
2nd Th	May 10	Davis, CA	6-DOG	7:30pm	CONFIRM	916-756-2967
	May 10	Sioux City, IA	38-SOG	7:30pm	Western Iowa Tech., Room 508	712-252-2182
	May 10	Modesto, CA	48-Tule FOG		CONFIRM	209-578-4909
	May 10	Medford, OR	54-RVOG	7:30pm	33 No. Central #306	503-482-8646
each Th	May 10	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
2nd F	May 11	Salinas, CA	5-MBAOCUG	7:00pm	Castroville Fire Station, Speegle & Pomber	408-449-4021
	May 11	Chatsworth, CA	86-ONUG	7:00pm	Wizard of Oz 9614 C Cozycroft Ave	818-709-6202
2nd Sa	May 12	Bangkok, Thailand	36-BOG	1:00pm	Action Computers 5/26 Saladaeng Road, Silom	662-311-4966
	May 12	Louisville, KY	64-PCC	1:00pm	Univ. of Louisvile, Shelby Campus, Rm 202 Burhans Hall	502-423-0451
	May 12	River Grove, IL	80-CFOG	1:00pm	Liberal Arts Bldg, Triton College	312-654-0986
3rd M	May 21	Raleigh, NC	8-ROCC	7:30pm	CONFIRM — Dreyfus Aud., Research Triangle Inst.	919-782-9576
	May 21	Wenatchee, WA	10-WOG	7:00pm	Computer Systems Marketing,1030 North Wenatchee	509-884-3279
	May 21	Detroit, MI	14-DeFOG	7:30pm	Ford Tech Center Cafeteria, 1700 Rotunda Dr, Dearborn	313-471-1342
	May 21	Edmonton, Alb	45-KOG	7:30pm	Alberta Vocational College, 10215 — 108 Street	403-459-0416
	May 21	Anchorage, AK	63-GLOB	8:30pm	Anchorage Comm. College, 2nd Floor — Bldg K	907-277-0950
	May 21	Menlo Park,CA	68-SMOG^3	7:30pm	Crane Place, 1331 Crane	415-326-2543
3rd Tu	May 15	Cincinnati, OH	27-COG	7:00pm	Central Trust Center 6th floor, 5th & Main Streets	513-232-4076
	May 15	San Luis Obispo, CA	47-CCOG	7:00pm	Chris Jespersen School, 251 Grand Ave.	805-466-8311
3rd W	May 16	Austin, TX	7-AEIOU	6:30pm	Old Quarry Library off Far West Blvd.	512-837-7539
	May 16	Oak Ridge, TN	13-SMOG	7:30pm	ECS 136 Fairbanks (**OR** 11505 Kingston Pike, Knoxville)	615-482-7919
	May 16	Las Vegas, NV	25-VOG	6:00pm	Las Vegas Library, 1726 East Charleston	702-452-2544
	May 16	Humboldt, CA	29-HOG	7:00pm	Room 126 Science Bldg., Humboldt State	707-445-2074
	May 16	Dunbar, WV	59-Valley FOG	6:30pm	Dunbar Public Library	304-727-6436
	May 16	Walnut Creek, CA	60-Mt. DOG	7:00pm	SF Federal, 1660 Olympic Blvd, Diablo Rm	415-933-2665
3rd Th	May 17	Santa Clara, CA	1-1st FOG SV	7:30pm	5201 Patrick Henry Drive (loading dock entrance)	415-856-0954
	May 17	Provo, UT	30-KAOS	8:00pm	Wiltec Research Co. 488 South 500 West	801-225-8293
	May 17	College Station, TX	43-AGGNOG	5:30pm	A & A Building, Texas A & M Univ.	409-845-5814
	May 17	Ann Arbor, MI	37-TOGA^2	7:00pm	Neuro Science Bldg. Univ. of MI, 1103 East Huron St	313-662-9026
	May 17	Tulsa, OK	51-OUT	7:00pm	Micro Systems, 2010 South 68th East Ave	918-584-5610
	May 17	Richmond, VA	52-CVOG	7:00pm	Red Cross Bldg, 4th and Main	804-270-9404
	May 17	Beaverton, OR	57-OSBUG	7:00pm	Tektronix Bldg 50, Auditorium	503-642-9692
	May 17	St. Croix, VI	70-StCOUG	7:30pm	College of the Virgin Islands	809-773-7551
	May 17	Garden City, NY	88-LION	7:30pm	Control Data Ed Ctr, 1325 Franklin Ave	212-327-2321
alter Th	May 17	Maitland, FL	20-CFIOG	7:00pm	Lake Faith Villas, Maitland Blvd	305-298-8576
each Th	May 17	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
3rd F	May 18	Houston, TX	76-OUCH	7:30pm	Univ. Houston, 101 Farish Hall, KIVA Rm. (Use lot 13A off Cullen)	713-688-8149
3rd Sa	May 19	Kenai, AK	18-PenFOG	10:00am	Room V111, Kenai Peninsula Comm. College	907-262-5801
	May 19	Norfolk, VA	78-TOG	9:00am	Armed Forces Staff College, Hampton Blvd	804-495-1596
4th Su	May 27	Amarillo, TX	28-POG	2:30pm	CONFIRM	806-355-7509
	May 27	Pittsburgh, PA	50-TROG	2:30pm	Mellon Science Building, Duquesne Univ.	412-456-3946
4th M	May 28	Mill Valley, CA	31-MOG	6:30pm	CONFIRM	415-892-2713
4th Tu	May 22	Wichita, KS	21-OPEK	7:30pm	St. Paul's Methodist Church, 13th & Broadway	316-945-8389
	May 22	Greenville, SC	41-POGO	6:30pm	Computer Dynamics, 1540 Wade Hampton Blvd.	803-233-3434
	May 22	St. Louis, MO	55-SLOG	7:00pm	Thornhill Library, 12863 Willowyck	314-862-6239
4th W	May 23	Danbury, CT	40-DOG	7:00pm	Preferred Utilities Mfg, 11 South St	203-775-1102
	Apr 11	Athens, GA	81-COG	7:30pm	Athens Federal Savings, Barnett Shoals Road	404-353-2127

Continued next page

Day	Date	City	A.M.O.	Time	Address	Contact No.
4th Th	May 24	San Francisco, CA	2-SF FOG	7:00pm	St. Aidan's Church, Goldmine & Diamond Hgts.	415-334-2851
Th	May 24	Lancaster, PA	74-LOG	7:30pm	Fire Protection Sys, 1873 Lincoln Hwy East	717-898-8929
each Th	May 24	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
last Su	May 27	River Grove, IL	80-CFOG	1:00pm	Liberal Arts Bldg, Triton College	312-654-0986
last Tu	May 29	Santa Barbara, CA	69-OSBUG	7:30pm	SB Planning Rm, 105 E. Anapamu St	805-687-8541
last W	May 30	Richland, WA	19-TROG	7:00pm	1776 Fowler	509-375-3258
alter Th	May 31	Maitland, FL	20-CFIOG	7:00pm	Lake Faith Villas, Maitland Blvd	305-298-8576
each Th	May 31	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
????		, CA	65-ENROBSO		By arrangement only — CONFIRM	408-458-9047
????		Sierra Madre, CA	66-SMOG		By arrangement only — CONFIRM	818-355-8825

Helping Your Group Affiliate

by Gale Rhoades

Any member of a local group may request the A. M. O. (Affiliated Member Organization) packet. The packet contains some background information on how FOG got started, Frank Morton's suggestions for forming a group and keeping it going, a copy of FOG's bylaws, a sample set of bylaws (to provide quidelines for any group), a form listing all of the information we would like to know about your group, a sample ***FOGHORN***, and FOG membership application forms.

If you have any specific questions, be sure to let us know so we can include the answers with the packet.

The following items must be received before your application for affiliation is presented to the Board of Trustees:

1. A signed copy of the group's bylaws — it is important that the bylaws reflect a non-profit operation in accordance with section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. FOG is not interested in running the local organizations. There are no requirements as to when, where, or how often you meet; whether or not your group is incorporated; what subjects are covered at the meetings; etc.
2. A letter requesting affiliation signed by one of the officers.
3. A list of officers with their FOG membership numbers (or application for membership). You must have at least three officers and the positions of President, Treasurer, and Librarian must be filled. (Thus a group can be as small as three members).
4. The meeting details — when, where, who to contact for meeting information — for the **CALENDAR** listing.

NOTE: Provided that the officers are FOG members, items 3 and 4 are satisfied by the return of a completed information form.

Affiliation becomes official when approved at a Board of Trustees meeting but many of the facilities of affiliation are put into action before that. As soon as we have a complete and correct application, the group is added to the **CALENDAR**. The group may also, if they choose, get on the library update service at the same time. Recent mailings for the President's Council also go out immediately.

* * *

Drive C:

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BOOTH 739

SYSTEM NOTES

Searching for BDOS ERRORS

by Warren L. Dowler

After receiving the double density upgrade, I had almost a year of frustrating, intermittent BDOS errors on my A drive before the solution was found. DON'T SET THE ZENITH ZVM-121 MONITOR ON TOP OF THE OSBORNE CASE! This may also be your problem. Apparently there is a random communication event that acts between the monitor and the disk drive to cause the drive to error. Cooling, shielding, grounding the drive or monitor reduced these events but did not eliminate all of the BDOS error messages until I moved the Monitor off of the top of the Osborne 1 where it was real handy to use. It is now placed on a pedestal one foot on the left side. I have not had a failure for the last two months.

For those who believe that they may have a similar problem the following program using the CP/M Submit utility will loop their Osborne 1 until it fails by stopping — BDOS error or otherwise. This arrangement eliminates the need to be present. One could modify the program to count the number of times the loop was exercised, but this is not really necessary because the Osborne should not stop. The concept could also be used to find or test for other intermittent long term or random failures--such as overheating.

First, the system drive is the A drive and it has to have the following files on it: AUTOST.COM to boot or start the loop, EXEC.COM for the interpreted PASCAL file execution, PIP.COM, XDIR.COM, and STAT.COM.

Second, the B drive has the following files: B.PAS as the source file for a PASCAL simple integer square routine. The file B.PAS is:

```
{ demo program to print squares of numbers 1 to 10}
program B ;
var
i : integer ;
begin
for i := 1 to 10 do
        writeln( i, sqr(i)) ;
end .
```

but any program will work.

I used this sample program from JRT PASCAL because it was simple, would work, was available and did not require any interaction with an operator. (There is no need to have more than one problem when your computer is giving BDOS errors.) To compile the B.PAS file one needs to have: JRTPAS3.COM, PASCAL.LIB, PASCAL0.INT, PASCAL1.INT, PASCAL2.INT, PASCAL3.INT, and PASCAL4.INT from JRT PASCAL on the B drive. One could use BASIC for a simple program, but the JRT PASCAL compilation to an interpreted file causes many disk reads and writes, which is what is wanted for the test loop.

Third, make a command file for the CP/M Submit Utility using WordStar in the N mode. I titled this file REP.SUB as below.

```
DIR *.COM
XDIR *.COM
STAT *.COM
DIR B:*.*
XDIR B:*.*
STAT B:*.*
B:JRTPAS3 B:B
A:EXEC B:B
SUBMIT A:REP
```

In this file DIR *.COM, XDIR *.COM, and STAT *.COM causes the A drive to read the A directory; this does not exercise the drive because the directory in CP/M is held in RAM after a cold or warm boot. This was done so that one can follow the sequence during the first startup loop when the files written by JRT PASCAL are not present. The commands: DIR B:*.*, XDIR B:*.*, STAT B:*.* do the same thing for the B drive. The file B:JRTPAS3 B:B causes the compilation of the PASCAL program B.PAS on the B drive. The file EXEC B:B causes the PASCAL interpreted program to be executed using this file on the A drive. The command SUBMIT A:REP is the key; it causes the whole sequence to be continuously repeated as a loop.

To start the loop for the first time one enters the command **SUBMIT REP** after obtaining an A> prompt. To stop the Osborne one must press the RESET button. The submit file has not been completed and the next time you cold boot the system it will automatically start looping. Removing the file $$$.SUB will let one start all over again.

Many other programs and commands could be used, and the reader can select his own. For more details on the use of the CP/M Submit utility see the Osborne Manual Chapter 8, Lesson 5 (SUBMIT AND XSUB on page 261 of the 2/22/82 revision. The Reference Section also contains information on the Submit utility. The books: *The CP/M Handbook* by Rodney Zaks, and *Osborne CP/M User Guide* by Thom Hogan both have detail discussions on the Submit utility.

It would be well to consider having the disks nearly full when the programs are loaded so that all of the disk areas on both drives are read and written onto. One must, however, leave room for the temporary and interpreted files.

* * * * * * *

Accessing the Outside World Through MBASIC

by Lincoln Jones

For some time I had been trying to access the IEEE-488 port through MBASIC for "hard wiring" external sensors. This appeared tricky because of the way Osborne chose to use bank switched memory making the normal PEEK and POKE commands awkward to use. However, after careful reading of the manual that came with my double density Osborne, I was left with the feeling that it was extremely simple, but I couldn't make it work!

Finally, after reading an old issue of the ***PORTABLE COMPANION*** (July, 1983) concerning the interface of a joystick, I noted a CALL routine for the IEEE-488 port that used an address 0e154h which did not "square" with the manual (which listed an address for an input parallel poll of 0e554h). Apparently the manual used an address for an older CP/M BIOS than mine (which is Ver. 2.2, rev. 1.4)and was not up dated at the time of printing. I now can successfully PEEK data (though indirectly through a temporary memory storage location via the USR function). The input data pins for the IEEE port are as follows:

DATA BIT	Gnd	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
Pin Number	12	8	6	4	2	7	5	3	1

MBASIC PROGRAM:

```
10 DEFINT A
15 GOSUB 100
20 DEF USR1=&HB000
30 Z=USR1(A)
40 Z=PEEK(&HBB00)
50 FOR N=1 TO 300:NEXT 'DELAY FOR EASY READING OF DATA
60 GOTO 20
100 FOR X=0 TO 6
110 READ B
115 POKE &HB000+X,B
120 DATA &HCD,&H54,&HE1,&H32,&H00,&HBB,&HC9
125 NEXT X
130 RETURN
```

cont. on page 32

Rather than using the GOSUB routine (of line 15), the linking program could be inserted in memory using assembly language (using the "A" option of DDT) instead. The address for storing this routine is any unused location, well above MBASIC and below BDOS/CCP (i.e., below CF00), I arbitrarily chose B000. The temporary memory location for the intermediate storage of the data is also arbitrary and I chose BB00.

Assembly Program using DDT:

```
B000 CALL E154
B003 STA BB00
B006 RET
```

The variable "A" in the USR1(A) MBASIC program is just a dummy variable to make use of the USR function.

* * * * * * *

On Using FINDBAD

by Frank Dunaway

FINDBAD is a public domain utility that we have had in the FOG Library for a long time. (FOG/UTL.005) The most frequent use for FINDBAD is to certify new or doubtful diskettes BEFORE using them for data or programs.

On rare occasions, when you format a diskette you may get a message indicating that formatting was not successful. In this case, place the "unsuccessfully formatted" diskette on drive B and a system diskette with FINDBAD.COM on drive A.

At the CP/M prompt (A>), enter:

```
FINDBAD B:<CR>
```

FINDBAD will step through the diskette on drive B one track at a time and check each sector for readability. If any bad sector(s) are found, the program will create a file named [UNUSED].BAD and allocate to it, all groups that contain bad sectors. At the completion of the run, FINDBAD will indicate, by console message, the number of bad groups identified.

If FINDBAD senses bad sector(s) in the directory area, it will generate a message to that effect. In such a case, you may simply want to take the safest path and discard the diskette. (If you are curious, you may want to experiment with recovering the directory area. See my earlier notes on "Recovering Crashed Directories" using the utility DU-V77.)

If FINDBAD creates [UNUSED].BAD, it will be incorporated in the directory for that diskette and thus the bad sectors are "locked out" and unavailable for use by any other program until you reformat the diskette or erase [UNUSED].BAD.

[UNUSED].BAD will only be created if FINDBAD discovers one or more bad sectors. Otherwise, at the completion of the run, FINDBAD simply displays a message:

```
"No bad blocks found"
```

Even more useful to me, however is the capability of FINDBAD to skim through a diskette that is literally loaded with data or programs, locate and lock out any bad sectors. Take this example:

I have SuperCalc with a number of other programs on one of my most used diskettes. Recently, I was running a lot of SuperCalc things. Along the way, when SC called for its overlay, SC.OVL, I got:

```
"Bdos Err on A: Bad Sector."
```

At this point, I fixed the program diskette by the following few simple steps:

1. Insert a system diskette in drive A and insert the diskette with SuperCalc (SC.COM and SC.OVL) in drive B.
2. Follow the procedure outlined above for locking out formatting errors.
3. After FINDBAD is completed, use PIP[V] to recopy SC.OVL (from your backup copy of these) onto the diskette that now contains [UNUSED.BAD].

Why is step 3 necessary? FINDBAD locates the bad sector(s) and assigns the allocation groups that contain them to [UNUSED.BAD]. However, FINDBAD does nothing about the allocation groups assigned to SC.OVL. Thus, we see that the same allocation group(s) is assigned simultaneously to TWO DIFFERENT FILES. Recopying the files (programs) which were giving the problem ensures that the groups now identified as part of [UNUSED.BAD] are bypassed.

How am I sure that this is what has happened? Take a short detour with me via DU-V77. Let's look at the directory area of the disk that encountered the SC.OVL problem.

First, using XDIR, this is how the directory appears:

```
AUTOST  .COM   2k
COPY    .COM   5k
DDT     .COM   5k
FINDBAD .COM   2k
INSTALLS.COM   7k
SC      .COM  28k
SC      .HLP  14k
SC      .OVL  19k
SETUP   .COM   5k
SPOOL   .COM   3k
X       .COM   2k
[UNUSED].BAD   1k
```

Then, with DU, look at the directory area sector by sector (Allocation Groups 00 and 01). The DU display of the two sectors that just happen to be most important to our discussion are reproduced below:

```
  Track 3, Sector 1

G=00:00, T=3, S=1, PS=0
00  00415554 4F535420  20434F4D 0000000F  *.AUTOST COM....*
10  02030000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *................*
20  0053504F 4F4C2020  20434F4D 00000014  *.SPOOL   COM....*
30  31323300 00000000  00000000 00000000  *123.............*
40  00534320 20202020  204F564C 00000080  *.SC      OVL....*
50  05060708 090A0B0C  0D0E0F10 11121314  *................*
60  00534320 20202020  204F564C 00000080  *.SC      OVL....*
70  15161700 00000000  00000000 00000000  *................*

  Track 3, Sector 6

G=00:00, T=3, S=6, PS=5
00  0046494E 44424144  20434F4D 0000000D  *.FINDBAD COM....*
10  50510000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *PQ..............*
20  005B554E 55534544  5D424144 00000008  *.[UNUSED]BAD....*
30  17000000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *................*
40  00534320 20202020  20434F4D 00000080  *.SC      COM....*
50  34353637 38393A3B  3C3D3E3F 40414243  *456789:;<=>?@ABC*
60  00534320 20202020  20434F4D 0000005D  *.SC      COM...]*
70  44454647 48494A4B  4C4D4E4F 00000000  *DEFGHIJKLMNO....*
```

Look carefully! In byte 72 of T=3, S=1, allocation group 17 is assigned to SC.OVL. At the same time, in byte 30 of T=3, S=6, allocation group 17 is shown as being in [UNUSED].BAD.

So, if FINDBAD does locate a bad sector on a diskette that we want to continue using, WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT MAKING SURE THAT THE BAD ALLOCATION GROUP IS REMOVED FROM THE FILE IN WHICH IT WAS INCLUDED. If we don't, we will not achieve what we set out to do--lock out the bad sectors.

FINDBAD is a great tool, and with it we can save ourselves a lot of time and effort. However, we need to be aware of just how it operates if we want to make full use of its power and not get bitten by its little quirks.

Frank Dunaway is a Vice President and the FOG liason of the newly Affiliated Member Organization, Long Island Osborne Network (LION). LION meets twice a month — a business meeting with a presentation on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and a working session on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Contact the group at P. O. Box 190, Oceanside, NY 11572.

* * * * * * *

Patch OCC BIOS to Increase Drive Speeds, Disk Access and Program Loading

by Frank Muennmemann

By now, almost everyone knows about the program FAST.COM available in the FOG library. If your Osborne 1 has MPI drives, just typing FAST makes your disks seek much more quickly, so that your programs load more quickly. This also causes them to make much less noise, and probably reduces the mechanical wear on the head-positioning mechanism.

Here's a simple patch to OCC BIOS which makes your system power up with the fast seek speed enabled-- you don't need to keep FAST.COM on any of your disks. I'm afraid this patch will work only for the Double Density Osbornes, since the patch addresses are different for the single density machines. That doesn't necessarily mean you can't do the following patch at all; you'll just have to figure out the addresses for yourself (and hopefully write a letter about it to ***FOGHORN***). If you've already made changes to the cold boot routine (something very few people are likely to do), you may also have to modify my procedure somewhat. If you have a copy of FAST available, or can get one easily, I recommend that you to try out FAST on your system before making changes, just to be sure your disk drives (BOTH of them!!) are physically capable of the higher seek speed. That done, follow the procedure below:

Prepare a disk with DDT.COM and SYSGEN.COM on it (a COPY of your utility disk is fine), and put it in drive A. Then run SYSGEN and DDT (the <cr> means hit ENTER or RETURN):

```
A> sysgen
...
SOURCE DRIVE a<cr>

DESTINATION DRIVE <cr>

A> save 59 cpmx.com <cr>
A> ddt cpmx.com

NEXT PC
3C00 0100

- a276e<cr>

276E xra a <cr>
276F sta ef13 <cr>
2772 jmp e4ed <cr>
2775 . <cr>

- a 1f80 <cr>

1F80 jmp e8ee <cr>
1F83 . <cr>

- ^C
A> save 59 cpmx.com <cr>
A> sysgen <cr>
...
SOURCE DRIVE <cr>

DESTINATION DRIVE a <cr>

DESTINATION DRIVE <cr>

A>
```

Now, reset your Osborne, and follow the usual logon procedure. You should notice a dramatic speed increase in the loading of programs and in all disk accesses. You can use SYSGEN as described in the OCC USER'S REFERENCE GUIDE to transfer the souped-up BIOS to your other disks. I suggest that, in order to save the function key definitions and so forth, you cold boot (with reset) from the disk you want to modify, and leave the disk you originally modified in drive B. Use SYSGEN to copy from B (source) to A (destination), then use SETUP to get the definitions from memory back on to the new disk.

For those who might be interested, this patch works by intercepting the cold-start vector in the BIOS jump table. A short routine, placed within the twelve unused bytes at the end of BIOS, sets SEKDEL (location EF13H in 59K systems) to zero, then returns control to the usual cold start routine. Since the single-density BIOS seems to have plenty of unused space available for patching, it ought to be possible to do the same for single-density machines.

* * * * * * *

Using Your Osborne 1 With Battery Power

by Neil McCubbin

One of the least utilized, clever, features of the Ozzie is the "BATT" connector. The few battery supply systems I have read about are scandalously overpriced.

First, some basic electrical engineering. The Osborne uses only 12 volt and 5 volt Direct Current internally. Your 110 v Alternating Current from the wall outlet is transformed and rectified as soon as it gets into the back of the machine. It is therefore silly to buy an inverter to convert your 12 car battery output to 110 volt AC, to feed the Osborne. It also leads to very fast battery discharge since both the inverter and the Osborne power supply waste much of the power fed in.

The Osborne manual shows the correct pin connections for the BATT connector. The necessary plug, and all other components, are available from electronics parts stores.

The manual is misleading in two respects:

1) You need a lot more than one amp supply at 5 volts nominal.
2) The "5 volts" required is really about 5.6 volts, due to an internal diode that drops the voltage by 0.6 internally.

To connect your battery to the Osborne, the negative terminal goes to pins 7 & 8, and the 12 V positive directly to pin 5.

To obtain the 5.6 volts for pin 1, use a 5 volt 10 amp 3 terminal voltage regulator (we used Fairchild A78P05), costing about $8 in Canada. We tried one with a 5 amp capacity, but it always overheated after about half an hour's use.

The ground (case) of the regulator is connected to the 12 V ground through a small diode, to persuade the regulator to control its output pin to 5.6 volts. A heat sink about 3″ by 2″ is a good idea, and the enclosure, if any, should be well ventilated. We installed a 220 microfarad capacitor between each output and ground to help smooth any transients. Perhaps the latter is not required.

Note that the power switch on the rear of the Osborne is by passed, and does nothing when on battery power.

It is best not to run the engine in the car while using the Ozzie, but we have done so. We have run Ozzie for up to five hours without being able to measure any drop in battery voltage.

Perhaps somebody can tell me why battery power supplies are so expensive. We spent about $15, and a good car battery costs about $50, so where do the $300 and up items in the advertisements come from.

* * * * * * *

Cooling the Tan Case Osbornes

by Neil McCubbin

As those of you who use the Osborne hard have no doubt discovered, they get excited and spew forth the dreaded BDOS errors after several hours, specially if you program accesses the discs frequently, or you are printing while editing with WordStar.

There are several neat fans for the blue cases on the market, but little for the antiques like our's. We put a fan in on an emergency basis, for about $20US, which has worked well for over a year.

cont. on page 35

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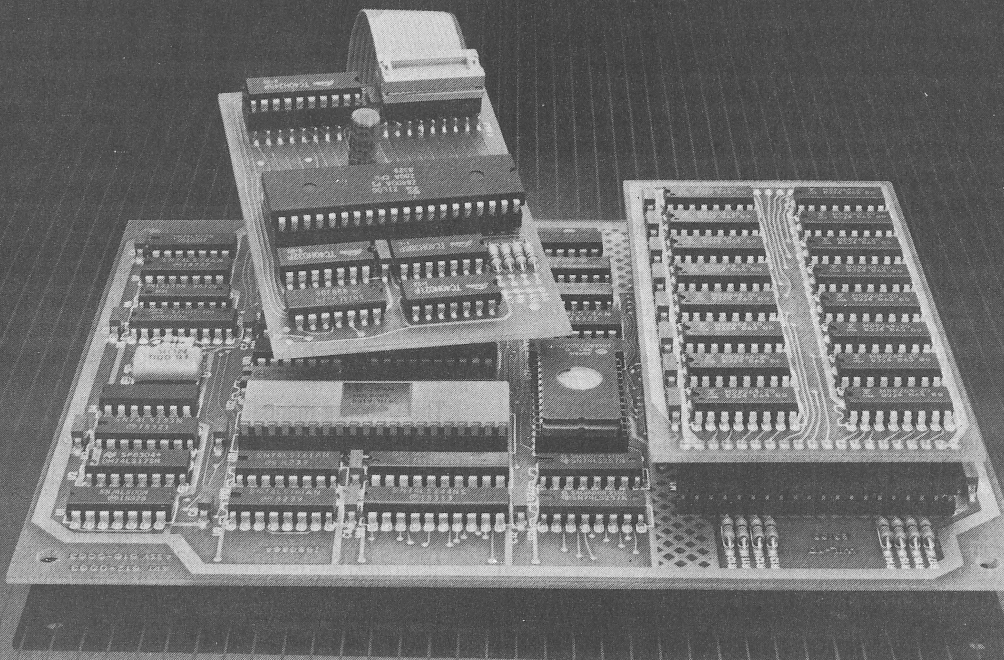

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First, remove the front panel, and the screws at the handle, slide the guts out carefully, remove the screws holding the electrical entry plate to the tan case, and lift the plastic case clear.

The hottest spot seemed to be at the power supply, lower right rear wall (looking from the rear), so we drilled about a hundred 3/32″ diameter holes in a rectangular pattern on about 1/4″ centers. You could also cut a 2″ by 3″ hole and protect it with metal mesh. After carefully removing all cuttings, re-install the intestines and the Osborne itself is ready for use again. The only problem in re-installation is avoiding pinching the wiring harness between the aluminium fram and the plastic case. A flashlight is a help.

The fan is a Radio Shack "computer" fan, with a brushless motor, mounted in a 4″ square frame, which runs on 110V. It is mounted in a wooden box, which I would be ashamed to photograph, and sits on the desk at the drilled holes, fitted snugly against the Osborne. It was too noisy, so we installed an ordinary light dimmer switch in the box beside it, and normally run the fan at just above stall speed, when it is almost silent.

The local service manager for Osborne was horrified at the thought of this induction motor with the very dirty lowered-voltage power that light dimmers produce, being located 2″ from drive A, but it has run trouble free for over a year, and the machine has been worked hard for up to 38 hours at a stretch by a trio of worn out operators. I am quite surprised at the lack of trouble with such a crude arrangement.

I think that any fan that moves air would do, the greatest trouble being to find a quiet enough one.

* * * * * * *

WordStar Installation: Osborne & the NEC 8023 A/C (or N) (with Greek-Scientific Capability)

by Hale Bradt

I have installed into WS the patches which make possible the use of the greek/scientific capability of the NEC 8023A dot-matrix printer. The use of such characters within a line is highly useful to Scientists/Engineers. The Greek/Sci letter set is commandable with hex codes (a hardware switch need not be flipped) and the dot-matrix head precludes the annoyance of printing with two run-throughs with two daisy wheels.

I worked this out for WS 2.2 and WS 3.3 which I use respectively with an Osborne I and an Osborne Executive. I use the NEC 8023 A/C (early model) and NEC 8023 A/N (late model) with either system. Super/subscript execution proved to be difficult due to bugs in the 8023 A/C and limited patch space in Wordstar.

I document here the Wordstar patches I used, including an assembly language patch to implement "true" super/subscripts ("s/s") which are raised less than 1/2 space. This patch returns the printer to single-space mode after each s/s, but WS's double spacing will work. It also drives the printer roller up and down for each s/s; hence the paper will not always return accurately to the original line unless you use the "friction" feed clamp. There is a simpler solution for s/s (1/2 line printing; ref. ***FOGHORN*** May 1982) but it slows the NEC 8023 A/C down a factor of two and the s/s run into the line above in single-spacing.

I do not choose to use the limited WS USER keys to implement features which are usually used for an entire document (e.g. Graphics — Exc #; 10cpi — Esc N, 12 cpi — Esc E) because one can PIP the appropriate control codes to the Printer prior to printing with WS.

I am giving a diskette to both the Boston Osborne Group and the FOG Libraries which includes a more extensive document, WSNECSCI.DOC, which explains the rationale for these codes, how to install them, and also the assembly language listing of the s/s patch. It can be a model for your own customized patches.

* * * * * * *

TO INSTALL BMC MICRO GRAPHIC IMPACT DOT PRINTER, MODEL BX 80

Place CP/M disk in A and WordStar disk in B and type the following:

ESC
setup<**cr**>
A
A
D (Centronics printer)
F (WordStar arrow keys)
B

Now press the <RESET> button and put WordStar in A drive. Press <return> and type the following:

X (to exit), at the A> prompt type in:
install<**cr**>
N
B
WS.COM<**cr**>
C
N<**cr**>
Y
Y
Y (primary list device)

When finished, the following should appear on the screen when booting up WS.

```
Lear-Seigler ADM-31 terminal
Back Spacing TTY-Like Printer
No communications protocol
Centronics printer driver
```

* * * * * * *

dBASE II

Graphics Display with dBASEII, Part 1

by Tim Snyder

This is the first of two articles about using dBase II and block graphics characters on the Osborne 1.

Why fuss with Osborne screen graphics and why with dBase II, you might ask. You may never want to use the graphics characters to dress up the screens in one of your programs, but if you do, it's not very easy to learn about them from the Reference Guide, or even from the Technical Manual. The hooks are there, but it's not intuitively obvious to the most casual observer just how to go about getting them on the screen. dBase II has some features which make putting those elusive characters on the screen rather simple. These articles are intended to take you beyond the Reference Guide and to help you get started should you ever want to use a few block graphics. You may even pick up something about programming in dBase II.

Starting in chapter 9 of the Reference Guide you'll find that the first 32 ASCII codes represent block graphic characters when the video display is in graphics mode. In that same section you will find that you start graphics mode by sending the screen the two characters, ESCAPE and g. (lower case g) You turn off the graphics mode by sending the two characters, ESCAPE and G. (upper case G) So to put graphics characters on the screen, you send ESC g, then the ASCII codes for the characters you want, then ESC G. That's all there is to it.

cont. on page 36

That sounds simple, but how do you place the characters on the screen where you want them and how do you key in the ASCII codes needed? dBase II has two functions that simplify the process. The @ xx,yy SAY command allows you to put characters at any location on the screen at the coordinates xx,yy. xx corresponds to the line number, which ranges from 0 to 32 and yy corresponds to the column number, which can be from 0 to 127. Yes, with dBase II the first line at the top is line 0 and the first column at the left, is column 0. Generally you should stay away from line 0 since dBase II uses this line to tell you that Insert is on or off.

The other function that you need is the CHR(arg) function. The argument is a decimal number and the function returns the corresponding ASCII code. The folks at Osborne forgot to put an ASCII equivalency table in their manual, but it is published in an issue of ***Portable Companion***. You'll also find the codes listed in some computer reference books, but for right now you won't need to know more than the fact that the decimal numbers 0 to 31 correspond to ASCII codes when the video display is in normal mode and block graphic characters when the video display is in graphics mode.

Let's put some of this to use. We want to put the video display in graphics mode, put up a couple of graphics characters, and turn off the graphics mode. Boot dBase II and at the dot prompt type in:

```
MODIFY COMMAND GRAPHICS
```

This will start the built-in editor where you will construct the commands to put a graphic character on the screen. Type in the following statements. The lines that begin with an * are comments and do not affect the program. You don't need to type them in unless you want to for reference later.

```
* GRAPHICS.CMD Demonstration of block graphics on the O-1.
SET TALK OFF
SET INTENSITY OFF
*
* We want to see the characters in full intensity.
*
ERASE
*
* Clear the screen
*
STORE CHR(27) + ‘g’ TO GR
*
* CHR(27) is ESCAPE, GR is the variable that will start graphics.
*
STORE CHR(27) + ‘G’ TO NOGR
*
* NOGR is the variable that will stop graphics.
* Now let's do it
*
@ 10,15 SAY GR
*
* Start graphics
*
@ 10,16 SAY CHR(22)
@ 10,18 SAY CHR(22)
*
* The graphic that corresponds to 22 is a vertical block that fills one
character space on the screen.
*
*
@ 10,19 SAY NOGR
*
* Turn off graphics mode.
```

Save the program with CTRL W. At the dot prompt type in:

```
DO GRAPHICS
```

Rather simple isn't it? I'm sure you'll find ways to put a few graphics characters into your programs. But wait! What are the other characters? Page 26 of the Technical Manual shows the characters. They are also displayed in a figure on page 42. The ones on page 26 don't look like the ones on page 42, and the picture on page 42 is cryptic. What we need is a visual index to the characters. Actually the ASCII codes from 96 to 127 also represent the graphics characters with 2 exceptions, which you'll see later.

The following program puts a border around the screen and displays the decimal numbers and corresponding graphics characters for numbers 0 to 31 and 96 to 127. Prepare the program as you did before and DO it. The dot prompt will be on a line below the screen when the program is finished, but don't worry. You can type in any dBase command and go on.

```
* GRINDEX.CMD Graphics Index
* Demonstration of Block Graphics by Tim Snyder
SET TALK OFF
SET INTE OFF
STOR CHR(27)+'g' TO GR
STOR CHR(27)+'G' TO NOGR
STOR CHR(23) TO T
STOR CHR(1) TO R
STOR CHR(24) TO B
STOR CHR(4) TO L
*
* T is the character for the line at the top
* R is the character for the line down the right side
* B is the character for the line at the bottom
* L is the character for the line along the left side
*
ERAS
@ 0,0 SAY GR
STOR 1 TO I
STOR 1 TO J
DO WHIL J < 51
@ 1,J SAY T
STOR 1 + J TO J
ENDD
DO WHIL I <=23
@ I,J SAY R
STOR 1 + I TO I
ENDD
STOR I-1 TO I
STOR J-1 TO J
DO WHIL J>= 1
@ I,J SAY B
STOR J-1 TO J
ENDD
DO WHIL I >=1
@ I,J SAY L
STOR I-1 TO I
ENDD
@ 24,0 SAY NOGR
STOR 3 TO I
STOR 2 TO J
STOR 0 TO K
STOR 1 TO M
*
* I keeps track of the line number
* J keeps track of the column number
* K is the character number
* M keeps track of the row number
*
@ 2,8 SAY 'Osborne 1 Graphics Character Index'
DO WHIL J < 45
DO WHIL M < 11
@ I,J SAY K USING '999'
@ I,J+4 SAY GR+CHR(K)+NOGR
STOR 2+I TO I
STOR 1+K TO K
STOR 1+M TO M
*
* Are we finished with the first 32 characters?
```

⇨

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```
* If so, skip to number 96.
*
IF K=32
   STOR 96 TO K
ENDI
*
* Are we finished with all characters?
* If so, stop the routine.
*
IF K=128
   STOR 11 TO M
   STOR 45 TO J
ENDI
ENDD
STOR 3 TO I
STOR 7+J TO J
STOR 1 TO M
ENDD
@ 24,0 SAY NOGR
```

Save the program and DO it. Did you notice that the characters for 0 and 96 are different and likewise 27 and 123 are different? Apparently there are a couple of mistakes in the character generator ROM. After you are comfortable with the technique, try writing a program that has K go from 0 to 255 and display the graphics on the screen. We will use this information in a later article. You'll find some interesting things.

This has been the brute force way of putting graphics on the screen. Next month we'll look at a simpler way of doing it.

* * * * * * *

FOG MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

FOG DISK LIBRARY NEWS

by Jim Woolley

The following information from Ed Valenzuela describes corrections to the Stock Base portfolio management system found on FOG/APP.025 thru 027.

There was a bug in STKCREAT.BAS which would make it rough to start a brand new data file. The fix is:

After line #1685
Insert ----> N% = NSTK%
GOSUB 1550

After line #755
Insert ----> KEY%(NSTK%) = NSTK%
Some 13 lines after line #714, just before NEXT K%
Insert ----> KODE%(K%) = K%

This will mean recompiling the STKBASE.BAS portion. Everything else should be OK; that is the only bug anyone has mentioned so far.

Corrected versions of STKCREAT.BAS and STKBASE.INT may be found on FOG/APP.040.

Claude Ostyn of Sitka, Alaska, comments upon a confusing passage in OTSETUP.DOC on FOG/UTL.018. The original reads as follows:

The name may be from 1 through 127 alphanumeric characters. Upper and lower case are equivalent. The "/"s may be any printing character.

Claude recommends replacing the last sentence with the following:

Any printing character may be used in the name except "/", which is used as a delimiter.

There were no new disks introduced during February. Disks introduced during March include FOG/GAM.XXX, FOG/UTL.037 thru 039, FOG/APP.036 thru 044, FOG/APP.XXX, FOG/MIS.019 thru 022, and FOG/LNG.014 thru 017. Following is a synopsis of DISK.DOC files from each of these new library disks:

FOG/GAM.XXX

CRAPS is a graphics version of the dice game contributed by Jim Hennessy. Also, see CRAPS on FOG/GAM.006 and 009.

SMURF is a modified version of MONSTER found on FOG/GAM.012 and on pp. 37 thru 44 of the June/July 1982 issue of Portable Companion. This one is perhaps better suited for young children. It was received from Detroit's DeFOG.

The following files were submitted by Wally Matthews of Pomona, CA.

BACCRRT is a modified version of the same program found on FOG/GAM.003. It is a baccarat game.

CROSSPUZ will prepare a word search puzzle using words you supply.

These are MBASIC programs.

BRIDGE, submitted by Doug Cox, is a bridge card game played against yourself. It was written using Turbo Pascal.

This disk is preliminary. Additional files will be added in future months.

cont. on page 39

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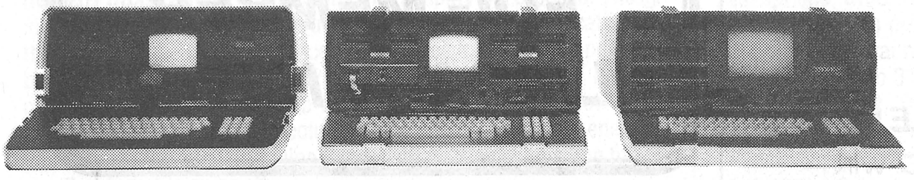

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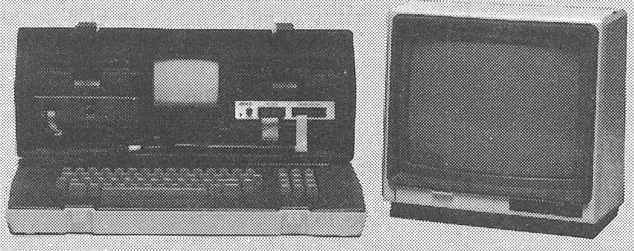

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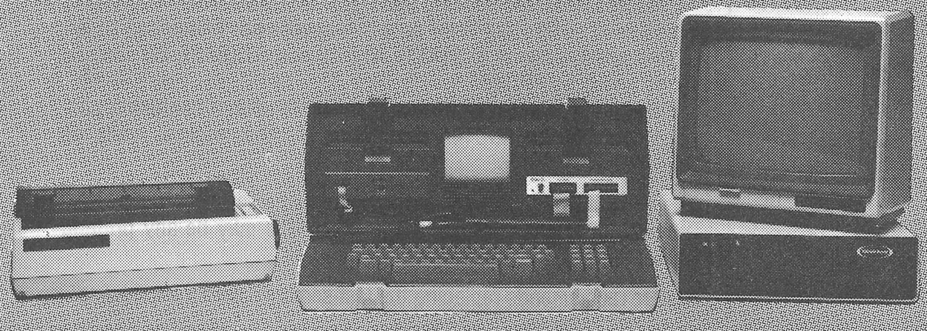

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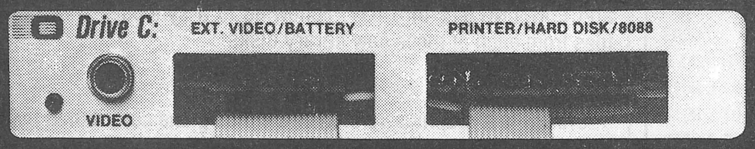

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FOG/UTL.037

OCLOCK uses RAM locations 0Bh and 0Ch to store a clock counter which is incremented every 60th second. Since only two bytes are used for the counter, it will recycle every 18+ minutes.

Doug Hurst of 29 Palms, CA, contributed XERA, which double checks confirmation before erasing one or more files. Also, see ERAA on FOG/UTL.014.

The following files were received from Rick Schmidt of Federal Way, Washington.

AUTOBOOT will exit MBASIC and execute a series of CP/M commands built into AUTOBOOT via DATA statements. It is similar to running the CP/M utility SUBMIT. It could be used as a subroutine to your own MBASIC program for special effects; for example, you could terminate your program, execute the CP/M utility XDIR, then restart MBASIC. For those familiar with dBASE II, it could be used like the QUIT TO command.

FILEPRIN will identify disks listed in a library catalog called MAST.CAT created using NEWCAT found on FOG/UTL.002. It will then display files contained on requested disks, similar to a disk directory. The display may be on the screen or printer, or labels may be produced.

AUTOBOOT and FILEPRIN are MBASIC programs.

DEXSUB may be used to delete XSUB while executing a SUBMIT file. This will permit part of the SUBMIT file to contain automatic program input managed by XSUB, while programs run after DEXSUB will wait for interactive input from the console. A byproduct of DEXSUB is that the <CTRL-P> toggle will be turned off if originally on.

SEEP may be used in a SUBMIT file to toggle <CTRL-P> on or off.

DEXSUB and SEEP are described in DRI-UTIL.DOC. These programs are also described in DRI's CP/M 2.2 Application Note 14.

PAUSE may be used in a SUBMIT file to pause until any key is pressed. This might allow disks to be changed, for example, before continuing. PAUSWAIT is an assembly language program containing options to assemble either PAUSE or WAIT, which will terminate when any key is pressed or upon timeout. WAIT may be found on FOG/UTL.021.

EX14 is an update of EX12 found on FOG/UTL.015. This program may be used in place of SUBMIT. It is not even necessary to prepare a SUB file in advance, since EX14 will accept a series of commands interactively from the console. Enhancements relative to SUBMIT include repeated execution, pause for <RETURN> key, control character representation, default parameters, and other features described in EX14.DOC.

DISK72 is a generalized file maintenance utility similar to SWEEP found on FOG/UTL.005 and 013 and NSWEEP found on FOG/UTL.031. It is smaller than those programs, but less versatile.

INDEX is a versatile DIR utility similar to SUPERDIR found on FOG/UTL.005. Options may be specified on the command line to reset drives for accurate free space determination, output to the printer, add titles, and alter output width.

SORTDIR will sort directory track entries into alphabetical order, placing all erased file entries at the end. It is similar to SAP found on FOG/UTL.014, except that SAP eliminates all erased file entries.

UNPRO will unprotect an MBASIC file saved using SAVE"filename",P. Also, see MBASIC-P found on FOG/MIS.016 and UNPROTEC found on FOG/MIS.018.

FOG/UTL.038

LABLDISK, submitted by Byron McKay, is a version of DSCLABEL found on FOG/UTL.009 modified for the NEC 8023, C. Itoh 8051, or compatible printer. This program will print on a 3" x 5" label a list of files found in the directory of a disk. Also, see DIRLABEL on FOG/UTL.013 and FOG/LIB.002, and DIRLBTEC on FOG/UTL.025.

DSKLABL1 is Dennis McFerran's updated version of the series of programs indicated above. Besides printing on standard Avery labels a list of files found in the directory, it adds a heading with date, SD or DD indication, disk free space, disk name (e.g., -FOG/UTL.038), and label page number, with multiple labels as required. If the program has not been executed since last powering up your computer, it will ask for entry of the date as mm/dd/yy. This date is stored in RAM and remains even if <RESET> is pressed. If the disk has no name, represented by a filename beginning with hyphen (-), the program will request one. A directory entry will be created in USER area 15 for the resulting filename.

PRINT was contributed by Pat Watters of Oakland. This MBASIC program will setup an Epson printer in a variety of print modes. The program is menu driven and easy to use. Also, see EPSNPRTR on FOG/UTL.009 and EPSET2 on FOG/UTL.014.

Donald Hill submitted SETSTAR for setting print control options on a Gemini-10x/15x printer.

The following files were received from Jim Schenkel.

GEMINI15 is similar to SETSTAR. It will also set print control options on a Gemini printer.

WORDS will count the number of words in one or more text files.

FOG/UTL.039

The following files were received from Jim Schenkel.

CHUSER will modify the CP/M USER number for specified files. Also, see MOVUSER2 and DUPUSR21 on FOG/UTL.019.

HEXDUMP will display on the screen 128 bytes of memory from any specified starting address. The dump display will be in hexidecimal.

HEXIDEC will convert a hexidecimal number to decimal.

MBIG loads an MBASIC subroutine to display extra large letters on the screen.

Claude Ostyn of Sitka, Alaska, contributed the following files.

FILTER will perform certain housekeeping functions on text files. One option will remove hard carriage returns from a standard ASCII file, permitting the text to be reformatted using WordStar in the Document mode. Other options convert WordStar's "soft" carriage returns, hyphens, spaces, etc., into standard ASCII form or strip WordStar print control commands. Also, see FILTER11 on FOG/UTL.020.

STARTER will create a customized version of AUTOST.COM, which will normally be automatically executed upon cold start or <RESET><RETURN>. (Some systems have modified the cold start program to be other than AUTOST, which is assumed for standard Osborne systems.) The program will prompt for a command line of up to 80 characters and for a message to be displayed when executed. Also, see AUTOST and AUTOMOD on FOG/UTL.009 and AUTOMODD on FOG/UTL.023.

FUNC, submitted by James Gangwer of Richmond, CA, will display current function key settings for a double density Osborne. Also, see FUNCTION on FOG/UTL.009 for single density configurations.

FOG/APP.036

These files were received from Rick Schmidt of Federal Way, Washington.

PAINT2 is similar to SCDESIGN found on FOG/APP.014. (Also, see SW80 and SW104 found on FOG/APP.032). It permits interactive design of a screen display using graphic and ASCII characters. Then it builds a file of DATA statements and an MBASIC program to recreate the display. The resulting program may be merged into a larger program which utilizes the display. A previously created display may be edited using PAINT2.

ARCHIVE.HLP describes the ARCHIVE system for packing several small files into one file, which usually requires less space than the sum of its parts. A second file is used to maintain a directory of files in the archive. The ARCHIVE system is similar to the library utility LU found on FOG/UTL.017.

This disk contains ARCHADD for adding files to an archive, ARCHDIR for displaying an archive directory, and ARCHGET for retrieving files from an archive.

FOG/APP.037

This disk contains the balance of files for the ARCHIVE system re-

cont. on page 40

ceived from Rick Schmidt of Federal Way, Washington. ARCHCPY will reorganize an archive and ARCHTYPE will display an archived ASCII file. BINOM2, received from Detroit's DeFOG, is a CBASIC program for binomial and cumulative binomial statistical calculations.

G. Dahl submitted WSPATCH3, a revision of WSPATCH2 found on FOG/APP.018 for modifying WordStar. This version controls scrolling depending upon WordStar's right margin setting, implements print spooling, allows highlighting to be toggled, and permits microspace printing with an F10-40 printer.

Remaining files were submitted by Jeff Lund of the Davis (CA) Osborne Group.

Another way to modify WordStar is to make use of the CP/M utilities SUBMIT, XSUB, and DDT. SUB files included here will patch WordStar to print double width, compressed, emphasized, italics, subscripts, and superscripts with an Epson printer. They also revise the WordStar ^P help menu to display descriptions of these new printer controls. Another similar approach may be found on FOG/APP.029.

CURVFIT2 is a revision of CURVFIT found on FOG/APP.005. This version has an 80 column screen plot function and options to save data in a file and read data from a file. The different order fit option has been fixed and the main menu has been improved. Also, this version is more forgiving of input errors. This is an MBASIC program.

FOG/APP.038

CHEX is a dBASE II application submitted by R. J. Switz of El Segundo, CA. Its purpose is to manage one or more checkbooks.

DBSQUASH is a "user supported" program by Greg Dahl of Carmel, CA. It compacts dBASE II command (CMD) files a reported average of 35-40 per cent, saving memory and speeding program execution. Perhaps DBSQUASH belongs in the Utility category, but it is included here because of its relationship to dBASE.

GCDPROGS.DOC describes additional programs by Greg Dahl which may be found on FOG/APP.039.

FOG/APP.039

This disk contains "user supported" programs by Greg Dahl of Carmel, CA.

VMAP2, a significantly revised version of VMAP found on FOG/UTL.017, will cross reference an MBASIC program. It creates an alphabetical table of variables and branch statements (GOTO's, GOSUB's, etc.), listing line numbers in which these items appear. All branch statements are checked for validity of the referenced line.

BCSQUASH compacts BASIC programs a reported average of 15 to 20 per cent by taking out comments and unnecessary blanks. This is an MBASIC program; the compiled COM file was not received.

MULTREG performs linear multiple regression. Output includes R-squared, t, F and Durbin-Watson statistics, a table of errors, and a scatter plot of errors. Since data and any required transformations must be entered directly into the program, knowledge of BASIC is required.

Perhaps VMAP2 and BCSQUASH belong in the Utilities category, but they were included here as part of Greg Dahl's "user supported" package initiated on FOG/APP.038.

FOG/APP.040

Ed Valenzuela submitted corrections to the Stock Base portfolio management system found on FOG/APP.025 thru 027. STKBASE.FIX describes changes made to STKCREAT.BAS to resolve difficulties in creating a new data file. STKBASE.INT is the result of recompiling with the updated STKCREAT.BAS and should replace the original version. STKBASE.LTR provides further information regarding use of this system.

ELECTRON, from Robert Nemeth of East Bay (CA) FOG, provides assistance with radio fundamentals and theory.

LISTINGS, received from Detroit's DeFOG, is a program for entering data regarding a real estate listing.

TAXTMPL4 and 7 are two of the federal income tax SuperCalc templates from FOG/APP.022. Except for Schedule G, these have been updated for tax year 1983 by Richard J. Switz. The other TAXTMPL files have also been updated and installed on FOG/APP.041. These CAL files must be used with SuperCalc2 version 1.00 or later.

FOG/APP.041

This disk contains an update of the TAXTMPL federal income tax SuperCalc templates from FOG/APP.022. These CAL files must be used with SuperCalc2 version 1.00 or later.

FOG/APP.042 thru 044

FOG/APP.042 thru 044 and part of FOG/APP.045 contain the Osborne/McGraw-Hill Accounts Payable (A/P) system. Also included is the General Ledger (G/L) system from FOG/APP.001 and 002 modified for compatibility with A/P. Walt Lersch of Portland's OSBUG took the A/P files found on FOG/HAK.001 thru 003, adapted them for the Osborne computer, made corrections and improvements, integrated with G/L, then resubmitted them for use by all.

As it stands, the system is not ready for use. Walt has provided detailed configuration instructions in A/P1.DOC and G/L1.DOC, which should be printed using WordStar's Print command. CBASIC source files and initialized data files are included. SUBMIT files facilitate compilation using CBAS2. CRUN2 must be used to execute. A double density disk system is required. It will also be necessary to obtain a copy of the Osborne/McGraw-Hill Accounts Payable / Accounts Receivable document, which unfortunately is no longer in print. It may still be possible to order a document from Vandata of Seattle; try (800)426-5248.

FOG/APP.XXX

READINV, READVEND, SUBS1, WRITEINV, and WRITEVND.BAS complete the Osborne/McGraw-Hill Accounts Payable initiated on FOG/APP.042 thru 044.

ENVELOP, received from Chris Hill, will enable your keyboard/printer combination to be used as a normal typewriter, almost. This is similar to TYPER found on FOG/UTL.008, except that the usual CP/M editing keys (backspace or left arrow or <CTRL-H>, <CTRL-X>, etc.) may be utilized before sending each line to the printer (by pressing <RETURN>). Perhaps this belongs in the Utilities category, but it is included here because of its relationship with word processing.

FFT, submitted by Bob Briggs, will perform the fast fourier transform calculation on a set of data points. There is a sample set of data representing a step function already included. Refer to Byte magazine, December 1978, for further information. Also, see FFT.BAS on FOG/APP.009.

The following files were received from Bob Hamilton of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

FINANAL is a SuperCalc template for various financial analyses including compound interest, future value, present value of a tax deduction, net present value of an investment, and rate of depreciation.

STMTRATO is a SuperCalc template for corporate financial statement ratio analysis. Also, see RATIOS on FOG/APP.009.

This disk is preliminary. Additional files will be added in future months.

FOG/MIS.019

CITOH.MOD, submitted by Wally Matthews of Pomona, CA, is a text file describing WordStar modifications for a C. Itoh 8510 (or NEC 8023) matrix printer.

Bruce Carrie of Scappoose, OR, contributed the SPOCK picture described in SPOCK.DOC. This disk contains SPOCK1 and SPOCK3.PQC, the first and third parts of the picture. SPOCK2 and SPOCK4.PQC may be found on FOG/MIS.020. These are squeezed files, which should be unsqueezed, printed, then taped together to form the complete picture.

FOG/MIS.020

SPOCK2 and SPOCK4.PQC are the remaining parts of the SPOCK picture introduced and described in FOG/MIS.019.

⇨

Rick Schmidt of Federal Way, Washington, submitted the following diagnostic programs. DIAG1-2 is a diagnostic routine for single-density Osborne 1's with ROM version 1.2. DIAG1-3 is similar for ROM 1.3.

FOG/MIS.021

ARTICLES is a database contributed by Ron Forsythe of Fairfield, CA. It includes information from PORTABLE COMPANION, Aug/Sept. 82 thru Oct. 83, and FOGHORN, May 83 thru Sept. 83, organized by program, category, volume, date, and miscellaneous information. ARTICLES.DBF is a dBASE II version; ARTICLES.TXT is a WordStar compatible version, which may be searched or printed.

LIMITS, submitted by Rick Schmidt of Federal Way, Washington, provides a test of Boeing 727 limits for use as a pilot training aid. LIMLST will print correct answers for the test. These are MBASIC programs.

Wally Matthews of Pomona, CA, contributed BIO, which will prepare a biorythm chart.

FOG/MIS.022

CALENDAR, submitted by Bob Hamilton of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, is a SuperCalc template which will generate a calendar for any year from 1900 thru 1999. It was derived from a Portable Companion article (issue?). Also, see CALENDR.BAS on FOG/MIS.010.

SUBJECT files were received from Edward Grant of Osan AB, Korea. They list contents of the FOG Disk Library, by subject, thru July, 1983. SUBJECT.TXT is in a form which may be conveniently printed or searched using WordStar. SUBJECT.SQF is the squeezed version of a comma delimited data file, which may be used with other application programs.

FOG/LNG.014 thru 016

FOG/LNG.014 thru 016 contain the manual for JRT Pascal version 3.0. Version 2.0 of the JRT Pascal system may be found on FOG/LNG.008 and 009. There are differences between the two versions, which are indicated in the introductory section of the manual. This situation is not optimal, but is better than no manual at all.

The original manual was copyrighted, but Gale Rhoades assures me that it was released to the public domain by the bankruptcy court.

There are fifteen sections, six appendices and three explanatory files. All files are squeezed.

Thanks to Bryan Stallard, Assistant FOG Disk Librarian, for summarizing this material originally received on the FOG RCP/M.

FOG/LNG.017

This disk contains a library of routines enabling Microsoft FORTRAN programs to make CP/M BDOS function calls. The routines were written to implement the following functions, which are not normally supported from FORTRAN:

ERASE	Erase a file.
EXIST	Test to see if a file exists.
GETCMD	Input the command line "tail".
INCHR	Input a single character without a terminating carriage return.
INKEY	Input a character (if one is pending) or a null (if not).
RENAME	Rename a file.

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EXECUTIVE LIBRARY NOTES
May, 1984

by Jim Switz

Boy, has the last month been hectic! (I'm referring to March, of course; because of the ***FOGHORN*** deadline I'm writing this the 3rd of April.) The volume of submissions to the Executive library is increasing rapidly, as has the number of letters I've received. What with the West Coast Computer Faire at the end of March, it's been a busy month! Please keep sending the correspondence; many of things I'll report this month were sent to me by you members, and I appreciate it.

I'll lead off with a few highlights of the disks released into the library this month (there are four new ones):

NSWP202 — A new version of the SWEEP program which works great
MODEM730 — The last in a series of the modem program from Irv Hoff; many new features added and source code included
VDO — A really nice, fast and small (5K) file/text editor
LSWEEP — A SWEEP-type program designed to work with libraried (.LBR) files

All in all, a pretty good batch of stuff this month. I promise this is the last version of MODEM to be put into the library for quite some time; Irv Hoff is burned out doing them, it really doesn't need any improvements until new modem designs come out, and I couldn't keep up with all the versions coming out. I completely missed MODEM724-729 while I was getting MODEM720 ready for the library!

This month, four new disks have been added to the Executive library:

-FOG/EX1.013

EXECSCRN.COM, from Rinaldo Prisco, will allow you to set the video attributes of your Executive's monitor, creating flashing, dim, underlined or inverse displays (or any combination). The program is menu-driven.

EXSERIFS.CHR, and GREEK.CHR, submitted by Kevin Messer, allow the creation of serif and Greek character sets on the screen of your Executive. GREEK14.FON, also from Kevin, is a Greek character set font created for use with the FancyFont typesetting program (not public domain) to allow printing of Greek characters. FILES.DOC describes the three programs in detail.

GRADES.BAS, from Harry Hawkins, is an MBASIC program designed to allow a teacher to keep track of class members and grades earned by each student. The program is menu-driven and has a reporting function to assign grades based on a standard distribution or straight percentage. Also see GB, a similar program, on -FOG/EX1.010.

INVSTMNT.LBR is a collection of financial MBASIC programs by Robert Blacher. Included are programs to calculate and compare broker commissions, graph stock prices, and perform various investment calculations.

LABEL.BAS, also by Harry Hawkins, is a menu-driven MBASIC program which will allow the printing of 4-line labels. The label to be printed may be previewed on the monitor prior to printing.

LSWEEP.LBR, by Joe Vogler, will allow SWEEP-like functions to be performed on "libraried" (i.e. .LBR) files. The program will allow viewing of text files before extracting from the library, and will allow individual extraction of files, unlike DELBR on -FOG/EX1.003, which extracts all files.

MSA.LBR, author unknown, was submitted by Ken Lovett, and is a disassembler to source (ASM) code, hence the name. Various options are permitted, and are explained in the included doc files.

NSWP202.COM, from Dave Rand, is the latest version of SWEEP. The program is now capable of squeezing/unsqueezing functions as well as many others, and is only 11K, replacing almost 100K of individual programs to perform all the included functions. The squeezed documentation file, NSWP202.DQC, is WordStar-formatted, so printing with WordStar will produce a very readable manual. The only function which will not work correctly on the Executive is the space remaining ('S') option.

PROJECT.BAS, another MBASIC program from Harry Hawkins, will calculate the cost of a laboratory or shop project, given dimensions and materials of the various component parts.

PTR8023.COM, from David Giunti, will allow the configuration of an NEC 8023 printer without sending hex codes directly. The squeezed source code, PTR8023.AQM, is included.

VDO-EX.LBR, is a 5K text/file editor which resides entirely in memory, along with the file to be edited, and so is blindingly fast. It was created by Creative Computer Services and since worked on by Guy Gamble, George Peace and Fritz Schneider. Squeezed source code is included, as well as a DOC file. After extracting the files from the library, call up the doc file with VDO as follows: A>VDO-EX VDO-EX.DOC<return>

VIDEO.BAS, another MBASIC creation of Harry Hawkins, will allow most video attributes of the Executive's monitor to be manipulated. The windowing function, allowing masking off a part of the screen and freezing it, is included. The program is menu driven.

-FOG/EX1.014

ELNA.LBR is a Supercalc template created by Reuben Sand to perform stock portfolio analysis. A documentation file is included, as well as a sample overlay, ELNAEX.CAL.

HEADLINE.LBR, by Robert Kuhman, allows the creation of large, banner letters on a printer. It is menu-driven and can handle both 80 and 132 column printouts. A documentation file is included.

PCFILE.LBR, by Jim Button, is a small, but very useful data-base manager. It is useful for mailing lists and other such tasks requiring no programming, and is menu driven. Sorting capabilities are included, as is a 17-page documentation file.

ZEROMAKR.BAS, by David Whorf, is an MBASIC program which will create zero-length files which are required by some programs such as CATALOG (please see -FOG/EX1.004). ZEROMAKR.DOC provides instructions, and I've taken the liberty of compiling it into ZEROMAKR.COM as well so the program can be run directly from CP/M.

-FOG/EX1.015

CALL-CPM.LBR, by Superior Software Corporation, will allow experimentation with CP/M function calls directly from the screen, and provides visual updates of all registers so that results can be observed. This program should be useful to those learning assembly language as well as curious high-level language programmers. A documentation file is included.

MDM730.LBR is the last in a series of modem programs by Irv Hoff, and includes numerous updates to earlier versions, including 36 telephone numbers and 10 function keys. Programs to update the phone number and function key list are included. I have configured MODEM.COM for the Executive with a non-smartmodem and SMODEM.COM for smartmodem use. The file READMEFI.RST describes the numerous other files on the disk. Source code for MDM730 is found on -FOG/EX1.016.

TYPWRYT.COM, by John Fox, allows the use of your computer/printer combination as a typewriter for quick notes, envelopes etc. The squeezed documentation (TYPWRYT.DQC) and source code (TYPWRYT.AQM) files are included.

-FOG/EX1.016

CAT-FIND.LBR, by Bruce Troutman, is a collection of files and instructions detailing how to set up an efficient disk cataloging system. A sample master index file is also included. See also CATALOG.LBR on -FOG/EX1.004.

CPM+SET6.LBR, from Craig Miller, will allow the setting of various CP/M 3.0 system parameters, such as default drive, default filetype to execute, screen width and length, and many others. The program is menu-driven and easy to use. Documentation and source code files are included.

MDM730.AQM is the squeezed source code for MDM730, by Irv Hoff. The installed program for the Executive, as well as documenta-

cont. on page 55

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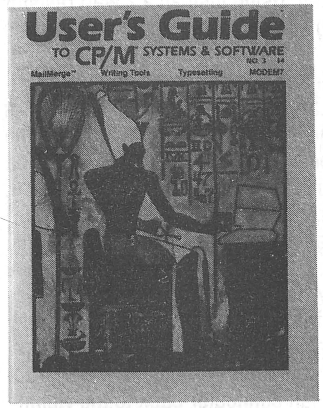

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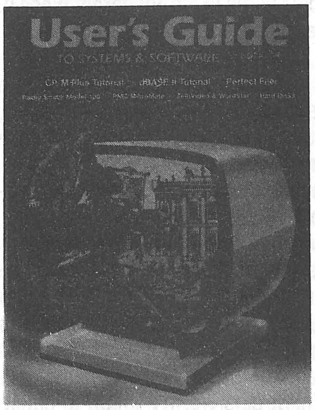

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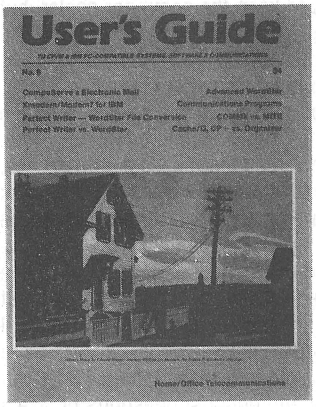
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EXECUTIVE

Some Fixes for the EXECUTIVE Monitor Problems

By Jim Switz

Last month, among the bugs reported for the Executive was a jitter in the internal monitor. The various symptoms reported are actually the result of two separate problems in the Exec's circuits. If you are having problems with your monitor, the following should help clear them up.

The monitor problems can be categorized two ways: a wavy display and abrupt jitter, ranging from momentary squeezing of the sides of the picture to complete collapse of the display. These result from two circuit problems, and will be discussed separately.

Please note that the techniques described below assume a certain amount of familiarity with electrical circuits. Though not difficult, the modifications involved could conceivably cause damage if not done properly. Please avail yourself of the help of a knowledgeable friend if you are not sure of your abilities. Having made this assumption, I have not included detailed wiring instructions in the text below; these details will be obvious to the installer. For information on how to disassemble your computer, please refer to my article on fixing the external video monitor port, which I believe is to be published in this issue.

First, the wavy display, generally the less severe problem. It has been found that this is a result of the cooling fan motor circuits interfering with the video display circuitry. The nature of the interference has not been thoroughly diagnosed, but fixes have been found. I have been given three fixes to date, have tried them all on my machine, and have found that all three work, with advantages and disadvantages associated with each. I'll describe all three, and let you decide which is most appropriate for you.

Herb Rubenstein of Los Gatos, Calif., forwarded to me the first of these fixes, involving the installation of four diodes in the fan circuit. After removing the top cover of the computer, you'll note that the wires connecting the fan to the computer have a jumper connector about midway between the fan and computer. I'm not sure why the jumper was placed there, but it sure comes in handy for adding circuit modifications. Removing the connector allows easy (no-cut, no-solder) access to both sides of the fan circuit. On each side of the fan circuit, install two diodes in series, noting their polarity, as incorrect installation will not permit the fan to operate. Inserting the diodes in place of the jumper is the easiest method, as the leads will fit the connector directly, with no soldering to the fan wiring required. Insulating and wrapping the diodes with electrical tape will hold the assembly together, and permits later removal or additional modification if desired. Diode types 1N1004, 1N4001, 1N4004 (or similar), which can be obtained inexpensively from Radio Shack or other electronics store, will work just fine. The purpose is to drop the voltage to the fan circuit, which has the additional effect of eliminating screen jitter.

From Gale Rhoades' source comes the method of using a resistor instead of diodes in the circuit. At the jumper, reconnect one of the power leads with a piece of wire, and insert a 47 ohm resistor in series in the other lead. I tried this fix at first with a 1/2 watt resistor, but found that it heated up quite a bit. Using instead a 2 watt resistor (with heat sinks added just in case), I found that temperature rise was minimal.

Ken Pachmayr of Memphis, Tennessee, sent me yet another modification, this one requiring significantly more effort to implement. As it turns out, there is more than one 12 volt DC power source on the power supply board. The fan has been wired initially to the V2 pin on the 13-pin connector near the rear edge of the power supply board. The V2 source is rated at 1.2 amps, while V3 (on the same connector) is rated at 2.1 amps. It appears that the monitor circuit is connected to V2 as well, since moving the fan power from V2 to V3 will cure the monitor waviness. I am purposely being vague about how to trace down and modify the fan wiring in this case, since as it turns out, my Exec's wiring is different from that described in Ken's letter, and I have no way of knowing how your computer is wired. However, tracing the small orange wire from the fan connector back to the vicinity of the power supply should make the required changes obvious. Ken's wire teed together with two blue wires in a transparent piece of insulation, while my orange wire led to the inboard pin of connector P7 on the rear of the motherboard, also connected to a blue wire. In any case, remove the orange wire from wherever it goes and put it on any of the three pins on the power supply connector which run to V3; I used the middle pin on the connector. It is relatively easy to remove the wires, but some soldering will most likely be required to install it. As no modifications are made to the fan circuit itself, this method results in no changes to fan operation.

Advantages/disadvantages: I've presented all three methods since each has its' own advantages and disadvantages. The first two methods will drop the fan voltage, resulting in a slowing down of the fan. This makes the fan much quieter (advantage), but also draws less air into the computer, making it run significantly warmer (disadvantage). I tried leaving my machine on for several hours with disks in the drives, and I don't think it gets warm enough to cause problems; in warm areas in the summer, however, things may be different. The resistor method seems to keep the computer cooler, but fewer than 4 diodes might do the trick as well; I haven't tried that. Cost difference for these first two methods is minimal; I think I spent $1.50 on all four diodes, and 85 cents for the resistor and heat sinks.

The third method, of course, costs nothing, and seems to be the cleanest way to do it, resulting in the same cooling effect as before. However, an unexpected side effect resulted, at least in my case. Apparently, the disk drives draw power from V3, and with each disk access, the fan slows down, returning to normal speed when the drive stops.

So, you may ask, which method did I choose for my Exec? I've tried all three, in the order presented, and to tell you the truth, I don't know which one I'll end up with. I like having my computer run cool (method 3), but I also like having it run quiet (methods 1 and 2). More cogitating, and possibly more research, is in order, I think; I'll let you know. In any case, I welcome any additional suggestions or fixes; those above will work, but are not without some side effects.

On to the second display problem, that of sudden (sometimes severe) collapsing of the display inwards horizontally. Gale Rhoades passed on to me the fact that (according to her sources) this problem is due to a poor solder job on a transistor on the monitor circuit board. If you are having this sort of problem, you should be able to fix it by performing the following diagnosis:

Disassemble your Exec enough to remove the top half of the case, then remove the top metallic cover of the monitor assembly (I believe there are 5 or 6 hex-head sheet metal screws holding it on). On the rear edge of the monitor circuit board (the edge closest to the fan assembly), locate transistor Q103. This is a large transistor with a black clip-on heat sink attached. You may have some difficulty find-

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ing the identifying mark on the circuit board; it was buried under glue on my board. The report we have is that a significant number of these transistors were poorly soldered to the board, and can become intermittent with physical movement of the computer or heat-related component expansion. There are three steps involved in this fix: first, if the solder joint appears at all suspicious, resolder all three pins using a low-power soldering iron and high-grade solder. Second, if the first step does not fix your problem, solder a Motorola diode (part #MR501) to the pins on Q103 as follows: + (positive) end to the base of Q103, and — (negative) end to the emitter of Q103. Third, if the above two steps don't work, Q103 will have to be replaced.

Unfortunately, Q103 is proprietary, made only by Zenith, and must NOT be substituted. A replacement part might be available from a Zenith parts supplier in your area. The model number of the Zenith monitor assembly is DS7NF1, and I copied the following numbers from Q103 in my machine: 8219 and 1070, but I don't know what they mean, if anything. Q103 is most likely just the local part identifier for that circuit board; its' part number is probably in the parts list for the monitor assembly. I have not attempted the above fixes on my Exec, since I don't have the problem and Q103 seemed to be securely soldered to my board, but Gale has assured me that this fix comes from very reliable sources. Please let me know of any success or failure if you attempt this fix.

* * * * * * *

Executive Perspectives

by Don Rowe

I've had my Executive since August, 1983 having purchased it because I needed a transportable computer, and because of it's many features, such as the programmable character set. I was also anticipating a reasonably good technical manual, but since this is not likely to materialize in the near future, I have been conducting my own investigations, with varying degrees of success, the results of which you now see before you. This is not an in depth tutorial on anything in particular, but simply a compendium of observations, problems and their solutions ranging from the trivial to the esoteric in the hopes that nearly everyone, from novice to hacker will find something worthwhile.

I have tried to avoid repeating information easily available in the Reference Guide or operations manuals, and have assumed that anyone who needs to go beyond the built in driver routines and directly access the communications ports as described later will have, and be able to understand, the data sheets on the Z-80 SIO and the 6821 PIA.

The little fan that couldn't

As I first turned on the computer and began playing with it, I was amazed at how quiet it was. When I finally found the time to scan the manuals, I realized this was because the fan wasn't on. This was easily remedied as the only problem was a loose connection inside. Incidentally, for those of you who may be looking for a quieter fan as I am, it runs on 12 volts DC and measures 3 1/8″ X 3 1/8″ X 1″. Replacing it is not a high priority item for me, but the noise can become a bit of a nuisance and I occasionally check the local surplus outlets for an inexpensive replacement.

The printer port that didn't

The description for the printer cable given in the Reference Guide probably would have come closer if the connections had been assigned randomly. The correct connections have appeared a couple of times in the ***FOGHORN***, but for anyone who missed it, here are the connections I use:

Centronics Pin	Description	IEEE-488 Pin
2	Data 0	1
3	Data 1	2
4	Data 2	3
5	Data 3	4
6	Data 4	13
7	Data 5	14
8	Data 6	15
9	Data 7	16
1	Strobe	6
19	Strobe ground	18
11	Busy	8
20	Busy ground	29
13	Select	10

A new cast of characters

For those of you who have not yet tried out the CHARGEN utility to create your own special characters, it can be great fun and is very easy to use as all necessary prompts are provided as you go. I designed an entire character set for French lute tablature (a common method of notating music for lute) which I use with WordStar and a special print program I wrote to send the proper characters to my Okidata 92 printer. I used WINSTALL to modify WordStar to automatically switch to the alternate character set and also to switch back to the main character set when exiting. One of the selections available in WINSTALL allows you to specify a command which is sent to the console when WordStar is run, and another command when you exit. Sending a 1BH, 61H switches to the alternate character set and sending a 1BH, 41H switches back to the main character set.

Many such commands are listed in the Reference Guide beginning on page 449. One error I have discovered is the command to start inverse video. The command, given on page 450 should be:

Keyboard	Decimal	Hex	Action
ESC j	26 106	1B 6A	Start inverse

The decimal and hex commands that appear erroneously actually reverse the entire screen and not just a few characters as intended. Another modification I made to WordStar was to use reverse video to highlight. I prefer to keep the brightness down on the screen and the dim video became nearly invisible.

Give the "O" the boot

The "Big O" which jumps out at you when you load the system is put there by a program called EXECST which also contains a command, usually the name of a program to be run, at location 256H. This is how programs such as WordStar and Supercalc are automatically executed after initialization. If you erase this file, after booting you will only get the CP/M prompt. The program that was automatically executed is still on the disk, but if you want to run it you must do so intentionally. You can change the command in EXECST, but you must terminate it with a 00H. Incidentally, since most of the programs provided are set to "Read only" status, you cannot erase them without changing this designation. You may do a SET *.* [RW] to make all files "Read/Write" enabling you to erase them when it becomes necessary, just be sure you also have SET.COM on the disk.

Serial protocol and the triple reverse

As I was testing the serial ports, when I first got the computer, I simply connected a video terminal to the ports and used DEVICE.COM to reassign the console input (CONIN:=PRNTR or CONIN:=MODEM) and output (CONOUT:=PRNTR or CONOUT:=MODEM) functions to the appropriate serial port. This is a quick way to see exactly what is going back and forth. This is almost trivial with the printer port since terminals generally use the same connections as printers. To use this technique with the modem port however requires a special connector known as a null modem cable. This cable reverses the "Transmit"/"Receive" lines, and also alters some of the handshaking lines. The most important lines for the

cont. on page 46

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Executive's modem port are the "Clear to Send" and the "Data Carrier Detect" lines since these are used as transmit enable and receive enable respectively. These lines and their pin assignments are given on page 441 of the Reference Guide.

A tale of three (??!) disk drives

Ever since I've had the computer, there have been occasional shuffling and squeaking noises emanating from both drives. The sounds became more frequent, and lately have resulted in disk errors. The problem is in the cone assembly which holds the disk to the spindle. Occasionally, the disk rotation actually slows enough to cause errors. So far I have only been able to make temporary improvements. I've ordered a technical manual for the drives in the hopes that it may contain a clue. If anybody out there has any information on this problem, I would be very glad to hear from them.

In working on the problem, I connected another drive, an MPI full-height drive from another computer to the Executive. Since the half-height drives are configured to turn on the motor with the select line, the Executive keeps the MOTOR ON line high all the time. This required isolating the MOTOR ON input from the ribbon cable and jumpering it to the select line. It was also necessary to isolate the SIDE SELECT line and tie it to +5 as this line toggles when the head is stepped.

CP/M Plus — If it's better, why don't the old programs run like they used to?

Many programs which run under CP/M 2.2 will also run under CP/M Plus, also referred to as CP/M 3.0. Common exceptions are programs which use the BIOS to directly access the disk, such as sector inspector utilities. This is because some of the BIOS commands work differently and the bank switching routines used by CP/M Plus also create problems.

CP/M is organized on two basic levels: The BDOS and the BIOS. The BDOS is the highest level and is all that is necessary for accessing disk files by name and inputing and outputing to the console and other devices. When writing assembly language programs, these are the commands that require loading the C register with the command code and executing a CALL 5. All my programs which use only these basic functions run fine under CP/M Plus.

The BIOS provides the routines that the BDOS needs for such things as reading or writing specific disk sectors. This is the portion of CP/M which is provided the the manufacturer of the computer. The BDOS is provided by Digital Research, the company which wrote CP/M. If a program written for a version 2 BIOS is run on a version 3 BIOS, there's gonna be a fight. This can also be true for certain BDOS functions such as BDOS 27 which returns the address of the allocation vector.

A good book on CP/M 2.2 is ***Inside CP/M*** by David Cortesi published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston. It provides complete explanations of both the BDOS and the BIOS, as well as many other aspects of CP/M. Unfortunately, I don't know of anything similar, currently available, for CP/M Plus; however, some of the BDOS functions given in Cortesi's book for CP/M 86 or MP/M have counterparts in CP/M Plus.

The biggest compatibility problem is presented by the use of bank switching to increase memory capacity. The Z-80 microprocessor can only manage 64K at one time, but by switching back and forth between 2 or more banks, memory can be made to seem very large even though only 64K is available at one time. CP/M hogs one entire bank of 64K and the program being run has its own bank of about 60K. (If you absolutely must know what happened to the other 4K in this bank, refer to page 428 in the Reference Guide.)

In the Executive, CP/M is in bank 0, the program being run is in bank 1, and banks 7 and 8 are used for various control functions and for the screen. Problems arise when a program in bank 1 asks the BIOS in bank 0 for some information, such as the Disk Parameter Header, which contains information about the disk currently in the drive. The BIOS only tells the program the address where the information may be found. What it doesn't say is that the address is in bank 0 and not in bank 1 where the program is. A program written to run under CP/M 2.2, assuming that all addresses are in bank 1, happily looks at that address expecting to find what it asked for. It certainly finds something and the results, if the program had a suitable vocabulary and was smart enough to know that it didn't get what it wanted, would be quite colorful.

Another problem arises with direct disk accesses by track and sector. In CP/M 2.2, direct sector accesses work with 128 byte blocks, even though the BIOS may sneakily pack several such blocks into one big sector on the disk. A program may read or write any 128 byte block anywhere on the disk with the appropriate BIOS call and any fancy rearrangements are done invisibly by the resident BIOS. In CP/M Plus however, when you read a sector, you get an entire disk sector. On the Executive, each track consists of 5 sectors of 1024 bytes. No sector skew is used. This means that any attempts to read or write a sector beyond 5 will result in an error.

To help make up for the seemingly hopeless confusion caused by having multiple banks of memory, there are several useful routines for moving the contents of one bank of memory to any other bank. These routines are available from any bank.

To obtain the contents of just one address in bank 0, load HL with the address you want to access and call FBE9H. On return, L will hold the value, H will be 0, DE and AF will be altered.

One byte is fine for small time operations, but it will never do in the big city. There are 2 BIOS calls for such occasions. BIOS 28 sets the source and destination banks for a block move. B holds the destination bank and C holds the source bank. The bank code is a bit pattern, bit 0 for bank 1, bit 1 for bank 2, etc. This scheme is described on page 432 of the Reference Guide. Follow this with BIOS 24. Load registers BC with the count, registers DE with the source address and HL with the destination address (Note that HL and DE are just the opposite of what they would be for an LDIR or LDDR Z-80 opcode), call this routine and presto, you really can get there from here.

DUMP dumped

The DUMP.COM file has a small bug in it. When attempting to view a file with an exact multiple of 256 records, it will abort with the error message "No Records Exist." Fortunately, there is an easy fix for this. Below is a disassembly of the offending routine, with the corrections on the right. Just use the SAVE and SID programs to make the corrections and save the patched file, but you may want to give the corrected version a new name.

Address	Current code	Change
399H	MVI C,23H	none
39BH	LXI D,5CH	none
39EH	CALL 5	none
3A1H	LDA 7DH	LHLD 7DH
3A4H	CPI 0	MOV A,H
		ORA L
3A6H	RNZ	none

The code from 399-3A0H gets the last record of the requested file and stores the record number in 7D-7EH. The code from 3A1-3A5H checks the byte at 7DH, assuming that no records exist if it is 0; however, if the record number is an exact multiple of 100H, the byte at 7D will be 0 even though records do exist. The corrected version checks both bytes of the record number and only aborts if both are 0. Notice that the three opcodes of the corrected version only need the same five bytes occupied by the two original opcodes.

For those of you who have never used SAVE or SID, here is a brief explanation of how to make the above corrections. I will not attempt to explain what any of this means here, but I would encourage you to learn more about these utilities, which are further explained in the manuals you got with your computer.

1. Use PIP to transfer copies of DUMP.COM, SAVE.COM and SID.COM to a blank formatted disk. **Do not attempt these changes on your regular working disks or your master disks.**

⇨

2. Type SAVE and press "Return."
3. Type SID DUMP.COM (Return)
4. You will see SID's opening message and a few numbers. Don't worry now about what they mean. The "A>" will be replaced by SID's "#" prompt.
5. Type A3A1 (Return)
6. Type LHLD 7D (Return)
7. Type MOV A,H (Return)
8. Type ORA L (Return)
9. Type a period (Return)
10. Press control "C" to exit
11. You will see a message from the SAVE program. It will ask you for a file name. Type NDUMP.COM (Return)
12. It will ask for a starting address. Type 100 (Return)
13. It will ask for an ending address. Type 500 (Return)

You will be returned to CP/M. You now have a new file on your disk called NDUMP.COM which is the new version of DUMP.COM.

A Look Inside

As you have probably surmised by now, I have ventured inside the little bugger on several occasions. It isn't difficult, but if you are not sure of your abilities in this area, get the help of someone who is, or be willing to pay the price if you do something you can't undo again without help, professional or otherwise. Here are the steps I use to get in. (Sounds like Adventure doesn't it?)

1. Remove the five phillips screws on the front panel. Gently pull off the brightness and contrast knobs, unplug the keyboard, make sure the keyboard connector locking arms are positioned straight out, and carefully remove the front panel.
2. Turn the computer upside down and remove the five bottom screws. [*You will need a 6″ Phillips for this. — Gale Rhoades*] Fortunately, all five are the same length so it isn't necessary to keep track of which screw goes in which hole. Turn the computer right side up again and gently lift off the top. It is also possible at this point to keep the computer upside down and lift off the bottom (which is necessary to get at the main circuit board), but for now, let's all do it the same way.
3. Take a look. What you will see is the disk drive assembly on the left, the video assembly in the middle, and the power supply board on the right. The entire bottom is filled by the the main circuit board. If you look at the right side of the board, you will see another smaller board mounted upside down. This board holds the RAM chips and some other associated circuitry. Remember this orientation, because all references to right, left, up and down will be relative to this position, even when we take off the bottom to get to the main circuit board. By now you must have noticed all that funny dark grey stuff all over the inside. This helps prevent the computer from interfering with your neighbors TV so be careful not to scratch it.

The disk drives.

These are two Alps half-height drives. Each drive has two electrical connections to the computer. The flat, wide ribbon cable is the communications link between the computer and the drives. The small bundle of wires is the power connection. By removing these four cables, two for each drive, the drive assembly is electrically disconnected from the computer.

To completely remove the drives, first remove the screw that screws into the covering of the video assembly. Now look at the left side of the disk assembly. Between the lower pair of screws, just below the upper sheet-metal housing, you will see the inner plastic housing. You should be able to see two vertical slots in the plastic. Press inward between these slots using a suitable instrument (an icepick is not a suitable instrument) and lift the left side of the drive assembly upward until it clears the plastic base. Pulling the entire assembly to the left will disengage the right side. You should now be able to lift the entire assembly free from the computer.

Remove the 8 screws from the sides of the assembly, slide off the metal enclosures, and the drives will simply slide out from the bottom of the housing.

If you look at the underside of the drives, you will see a large pulley with a strobe disk on it and a small circuit board at the front of the drive. The strobe disk is for adjusting the speed of the drive. I like to use a fluorescent light to illuminate the disk while adjusting VR1 on the small circuit board.

Obviously the disks must be reconnected before this speed adjustment can be made. The fan will simply lift out, enabling you to run the drive cables out the back. By standing the drives on their side, close to the computer, you can plug everything in again and be able to see the strobe disks.

If you look at the top of the drive, near where the ribbon cable plugs in, you will notice 7 pairs of upright pins with markings like HS, DS2 and HM. The upper drive will have a connector on HM and the pair of pins between DS2 and HS which by implication is DS1. The lower drive will have a connector on HM and DS2. Don't move the connector on HM, but by swapping the connectors between DS2 and DS1, you can make drive A think it is drive B and drive B think it is drive A. You could also make a drive think it drive C by moving the connector to DS3 but the Executive wouldn't like it. With a little care, these connectors can be swapped without removing the drive assembly from the computer which can be very useful if you are having problems with a drive and need to swap them electronically.

You can also switch positions if you like, placing the bottom drive on top and the top drive on the bottom, but if you do this, you should also be sure to remove the small chip in the socket just in front of the drive selector pins and place it in the uppermost drive. The drive on the bottom should never have this chip. It is a termination resistor pack and should always be in the drive at the very end of the ribbon cable. If you are having drive problems, physically swapping drives in this way can help you determine if the problem is the drive itself, or something else, such as a defective cable.

The video section

Once the drives are out, you can easily remove the top cover of the video assembly since one of the screws is on the left side and is difficult to reach with the drive assembly installed. On the left side is the circuit board with a few adjustments you may need from time to time such as vertical size. These adjustments are also accessible through holes punched in the left side of the enclosure. If you don't know what these do, don't touch them.

Another adjustment you can make is rotating the yoke on the tube. I have found that the display gets a bit cock-eyed when the computer is carried around a lot. The yoke is the assembly around the middle of the tube and is secured by a single screw at the small end. By rotating the yoke, you actually rotate the display. This is not a difficult procedure, but it must be done with **extreme care** since the tube is fragile and high voltage exists inside the video assembly.

The circuit board

To get to the circuit board, turn the computer upside down, preferably with the top of the case in place, and remove the bottom of the case. The next step is to remove the metal plate that the brightness and contrast controls protrude through, which is secured by two hex head screws.

The circuit board itself is secured by 4 phillips screws at the corners, one of which has a grounding wire attached to it. Take care with the foil shielding on the bottom of the board as this is soldered to the circuit board between the RS232 connectors. Two connectors must be unplugged before the board can be lifted free. One is the video connector and is just behind the external video connector, the one that says "Do not remove ..." The other is the power connector which is in back on the left. If you wish, you may also remove the ribbon cable for the disk drives. Just be sure you remember which way the cables came off so you can put them back the same way as none of these are keyed; they can be plugged in backwards with disastrous consequences.

cont. on page 48

Position the board with the serial ports on the left side in front which is how they normally are when the computer is fully assembled. Notice that across the top of the board are numbers from 1 — 25 and on the left side are letters from A — F from top to bottom. These are used to number the ICs. The designation for any particular IC is U, row (A-F), column (1-25). No more searching the entire board to find a certain chip. Very clever these Ozzies.

On the right side is the piggy-back memory board. This contains banks 0 and 1 of RAM and a little additional support circuitry. It is connected by means of a 72 pin connector, so this is probably intended for future expansion, such as the originally announced 8088 enhancement. There is also room for a 50 pin connector on the left side of the board. Although the Reference Guide mentions that the Executive can accommodate additional banks of RAM, there are no provisions for this on the existing circuit board.

There are 7 2128 RAMs, three of them in 28 pin sockets, so there are probably some expansion possibilities here as well. The entire system seems to use a single 23.9616 MHz master oscillator.

The serial ports

The modem port is channel A of the SIO, obviously making the printer port channel B. The C/D line of the SIO is connected to address line 0 of the Z-80 while the A/B select is connected to address line 1. The block of port addresses for the SIO is 0C-0F as given on page 440 of the Reference Guide. 1488 and 1489 RS232 receiver and driver chips are used between the SIO and the actual DB-25 connectors.

The IEEE port

The 6821 uses ports 10H — 13H. The following table summarizes the routing from the 6821 to the IEEE connector. The most important thing to keep in mind is that all lines are inverted between the 6821 and the IEEE connector. Pull-up resistors are used at the connector. The inversion is done by a 74LS03 in input mode and a 7438 when these lines function as outputs. PB4, CA2 and CB2 are inverted by a 7406 and the input to CA1 is gated and inverted by a 74LS02.

6821 PIA Pin	Name	Direction	IEEE Connector Pin
PA0 — PA7 are bidirectional data lines.			
2	PA0	Both	1
3	PA1	Both	2
4	PA2	Both	3
5	PA3	Both	4
6	PA4	Both	13
7	PA5	Both	14
8	PA6	Both	15
9	PA7	Both	16
PB0 — PB1 are I/O select lines — (0 enables output, 1 enables input)			
10	PB0	Controls data lines	
11	PB1	Controls PB6 and PB7. enables CA1 when high	
12	PB2	Controls PB3 and PB5	
PB3 — PB7 are control lines			
13	PB3	Both	5
14	PB4	Out	11
15	PB5	Both	6
16	PB6	Both	8
17	PB7	Both	7
6821 Control Lines			
19	CB2	Out	17
39	CA2	Out	9
40	CA1	In	10

IEEE pins 18 — 24 are signal groundIEEE pin 12 is chassis ground

But what does it all mean?

My primary reason for investigating the parallel port so thoroughly was to develop a parallel non-IEEE communication interface. I sometimes have need to transfer files from computers without serial ports and with hopelessly conflicting disk formats. Fortunately, such machines almost always have Centronics printer ports. By making a special cable for the Executive and directly controlling the parallel port, I created a Centronics printer emulator. The other computer (usually a TRS-80 or Apple II) thinks it is simply printing a file, but in reality, my little Executive is lurking at the other end of the cable, dutifully slurping up whatever comes down the line. I will be making this program and instructions for making the cable available through the FOG disk library.

The disclaimer

Some of the information presented here was obtained only after hours of deliberate effort, some stumbled across almost by accident, but all of it can be added to and possibly amended. Everything I have presented here works for me so far, but there may be some as yet undiscovered fine print; use the above information with discretion.

* * * * * * *

Miscellaneous Notes

by Jim Switz

When using the WINSTALL program on your WordStar installation disk, try answering a "+" (plus sign) at the Installation Menu, instead of A-F or X. This will take you off into an undocumented Twilight Zone of the installation program, allowing you to go to patching labels (like PSINIT, ROLUP, ROLDOW etc) just like the earlier versions of WordStar on the Osborne 1. It looks really interesting for hackers, but I haven't had the time to play with it yet. Please pass on any discoveries you make while fooling around in this area. (I got this tip from an ***Infoworld*** review of WordStar.)

Regarding the infamous BIOS error when printing, Richard Doner reports that answering Y to the question cleared up the problem (until RESET of course) with his Gemini 15x printer running from the parallel port. I've since heard this from several other folks also running parallel, so you might try it out. In any case, I have the new Executive BIOS version 1.1, and it seems to clear up the problem just fine. See the March ***FOGHORN***, page 3, for details on how to order the upgraded BIOS.

I mentioned a couple of months ago that I couldn't tell under which version of Supercalc a template was created. Not true! Jim Woolley pulled me aside at a Santa Clara FOG meeting to inform me that using the / L(oad) D(isplay) (S)upercalc-type files will call up a directory of .CAL files on the logged disk, with version number shown. Interpret the version numbers as follows: 1.0 is Supercalc 2, and 1.05 or 1.12 is Supercalc. You'll recall that version 1.12 can read 1.05 files, and Supercalc 2 can read all three, but the reverse is not true, so it's handy to be able to check the version number.

There is a real problem with the INSTALLS program supplied with Supercalc, which came bundled with the Executive. Apparently, the version of INSTALLS we received was a crippled, demonstrator version of the program, and any changes to printer or screen width, border character etc. will not be saved to disk or memory by our version of INSTALLS. The problem is known at both Sorcim and Osborne; no idea how it will be resolved. However, the INSTALLS program from either Supercalc 2 or the Osborne 1 version of Supercalc will do the job, if you already have either of those programs.

For those interested in getting the Osborne COMM-PAC modem (from the Osborne 1) running on their Exec, I have some news. Sean Collins, in Moscow, Idaho is working on the problem; he says he's getting close to having MODEM7 running on it. Also, Dawn Technology in Santa Clara has a cable which will adapt (and power) the COMM-PAC to the Exec. The price is $39.95 plus $5 shipping (and 6.5% tax for Calif. residents). Their address is:

2403 De La Cruz Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95050
(408) 980-1122

The software which came with the modem has to be upgraded; Dawn will refer you to the software publisher for upgrade information. I don't know if the various Exec. versions of MODEM7xx will work on it or not. Please let me know how it goes if you make the adaption.

Another "hidden" key on the Exec's keyboard is the DELete key, which can be invoked by typing ^? (control ?). My thanks to Alex Burr in Las Cruces, New Mexico, for pointing that one out for me. I don't know if I never noticed it or forgot about it; thanks, Alex, for keeping me on my toes. Alex also said he is compiling all the errors and typos in the Exec manuals, and will forward his collection to us.

After mentioning that Digital Research deleted the SAVE 0 option to create zero-length files for the CATALOG program, I received three separate ways to perform the operation, in addition to copying and renaming a zero-length disk name from a library disk:

— Using ED.COM (from Lynn Mitchell in England):

(bold letters are your input, <cr> means RETURN key)

```
A>ed b:-dsknme.000<cr>
 NEW FILE
:* i <cr>
1: ^z (control z)
:* e <cr>
A>
```

— Using SID.COM (from Larry Drobnitch of Katy, Texas):

```
A>save <cr>
A>sid <cr>
CP/M 3 SID VERSION 3.0
#^c (control c)
ENTER FILE (TYPE RETURN TO EXIT):b:-dsknme.000 <cr>
A>
```

— Use ZEROMAKR, by David Whorf, on -FOG/EX1.014

Thanks for the above input, gentlemen; that's how problems get solved.

The Universal Terminal Emulation program for the Executive is finally available! JMM Enterprises (yep, the guys from the back of all those ***Portable Companion*** issues) is handling the program. The bad news is that it won't be free. The good news is that those Exec owners who received a UTE certificate with their machines will get a $50.00 credit on the cost of the software, which is priced at $249.95. JMM may be contacted at:

115 Battersby
Enumclaw, WA 98022
(206) 825-1637

I will hopefully be receiving a copy soon, and will write a ***FOGHORN*** review as soon as possible. Speaking of reviews, I will be doing MacInker, a ribbon reinker, and Osboard, Osgraph, and Osbrief graphics software as well. Preliminary comments are favorable on all of the above so far.

At long last, I ran across a piece of software I've been trying to find for some time. Media Master, from DG Systems, will read, write and format about 25 different disk formats, including Kaypro and all IBM formats. The publishers will add any formats you need which aren't included for free (or a small charge; I'm not sure). It will run on both the Osborne 1 and Executive. Enough advertising; DG runs ***FOGHORN*** ads, so look for them in these pages.

In case you've run across the Executive Diagnostic Disk in the product offering sheet appearing in the ***FOGHORN*** and wondered whether it was worth it, my emphatic answer is YES! This disk was originally designed to aid dealers in the diagnosis of sick machines, and is very thorough. It will check out every component in your Exec, including ROM, RAM, both drives, the screen, keyboard and ports (if loopback plugs are inserted). After running exhaustive tests (a quickie sequence takes about 15 minutes), a statistical summary of all pass/fail data is available, and can be sent to your printer if you wish. For $55 this disk can save you its price the first time you suspect problems, as most repair places will charge you about that much just to have a peek at your machine. No instructions are included, but everything is menu-driven and very easy to figure out by playing around. Although not listed, a similar disk (no part number) is available for the Osborne 1 for the same price. Highly recommended.

The Exec Technical Manual. The latest word is that it will be ready Real Soon Now (probably early Summer). It still won't be cheap, I suspect something over $100, but if the preliminary copy in the FOG office is any indication, it will be worth it to hackers and other interested parties.

I'd like your comments on a matter proposed to me by Jack Brown in Vancouver. He brought up the very good point that adding Osborne 1 programs which work on the Exec to the Executive library adds significant cost to chapters which already have the Osborne 1 library, as well as individuals who purchase disks from FOG. Jack made the suggestion that an index disk be created which lists those Osborne 1 files that have been checked out on the Exec (or publish such a list in each month's ***FOGHORN***). That way redundancy in purchasing disks for groups is avoided. My concern is for individual Executive owners with no library access through a local chapter. I think it is somewhat expensive to have to purchase entire O-1 disks just to get one or two (or a few) files to use on the Executive. I'm torn between the two methods, both of which have merit. I'll bring it up to the board of trustees, but in the meantime, I would like your opinion on the subject if possible.

These are just a few short goodies I've picked up recently which needed to be passed on:

1) Turbo Pascal, from Borland, which you've no doubt seen ads for and which has gotten great reviews, will NOT work correctly on the Executive. This problem is well known at both Borland and OCC, and is being worked on. I plan to order it myself, and only hope the $50.00 "introductory" price holds until the problem is resolved. Stay tuned; we'll announce any fix in the ***FOGHORN***.

2) It's been reported to me that the CATALOG program on -FOG/EX1.004 will not work correctly on files which have the time/date stamping option implemented. I just haven't had time to check this out, but will do so by the next issue of ***FOGHORN***, and will let you know.

3) The Technical Manual for the Executive is a priority at OCC, and will be published. I know a lot of you Exec owners are anxiously awaiting its' publication, but be advised it won't be cheap. The preliminary copy at the FOG office (which is available for in-office use) is about 6″ of paper.

4) Garry Irvine, in Scotland, reports that the loading time of WordStar can be shortened considerably by typing a ^C (control-C) immediately after invoking the "WS<cr>" command line. He states that his load time was cut from 14 to 8 seconds!

5) The new version 1.1 of the Exec's BIOS which was announced in the March ***FOGHORN*** is indeed the fix to the printer port problem discussed in the same issue in the Executive column. I wrote the column back in January, long before the announcement of the new BIOS, and several folks were unsure of the connection.

Notes from the Computer Faire:

In a word, terrific! You can read much about it in Frank's column, but the attendance at the Osborne booth was amazing. Many folks were curious to find out that OCC has indeed not vanished, and the reaction to that fact was almost universally positive. The new Osborne PC prototype attracted lots of attention, as did the FOG booth. It amazed me how many local Ozzie owners still had not heard of us. Oh well, they have now. My thanks to those of you who came by to introduce yourself; it was great meeting face to face many folks I've only known by modem, phone or letter until now. I won't bore you with details, but suffice it to say attendance at the Faire is well worth it if you can break away to attend.

cont. on page 51

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Technical questions: call (818) 716-1655
All programs are also available for KAYPRO and DEC RAINBOW computers.
Dealer inquiries invited.

In closing this month, a couple of personal comments. I really do appreciate the cards and letters sent by many of you, and I certainly encourage people to write, but please accept my apologies for some late replies to many of them. I started out with a small stack on my desk, which grew to a shoebox full. Presently, I'm using a bigger shoebox, and anticipate having to go to a packing crate! I'll stick to my promise to reply to all, but my present system involves doing a batch once a week or so, which results in some delays. Also, at the end of each month I'm up against deadlines for releasing disks and writing this nonsense for the ***FOGHORN***, so correspondence gets pushed aside at that time. Please be patient with me, and be sure to mark it urgent if it is. I do read everything, and look at all disks, the day I receive them, so I assure you no one is being ignored. By the way, thanks for the many words of encouragement I've received; that sort of thing really keeps me going during 2:00am modem soirees grabbing library stuff.

By the way, when sending library submissions via disks, please be sure to indicate which FOG library disk(s) you would like overwritten on them when I return them. Otherwise, I'll just send the latest available, OK?

Finally, thanks to those of you who gave me your vote in the recent FOG board of trustees election. I'm honored to be elected and promise to work as hard as I can to keep this amazing organization prosperous.

Again, my residential statistics:
2435 Tamalpais St. Mountain View, CA 94043
(415) 968-3356 before 10 pm Pacific time, if possible

I also check in at the FOG RCP/M system #1 (415-755-2030) a couple of times each week or so, so you can modem messages to me there as well.

* * * * * * *

The First Osborne Group (FOG) *does not endorse any of the products advertised in this publication. FOG does not verify the accuracy of the claims in any of the ads. You should thoroughly investigate any offers before buying.*

Please let FOG know of any difficulties encountered. Send all details, in writing, to the FOG office at P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474, U. S. A. We can't promise a solution, but we will try to help.

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Osborne Exec. 8 months old barely used. Complete with software including SpellStar and Superfile. David Morris (213)439-4190 week days after 5:00 p.m.

* * * * * * *

Software for the Disabled

I would like to know of any educational software for the learning disabled. If you have any information you could give me please contact me.

Rosalie Leposky
1507 Madrid St.
Coral Gable. FL 33134
(305)445-9236

* * * * * * *

FOR SALE:

MicroMUMPS version 4.0 for Osborne 1 DD. Includes 3 diskettes and documentation. $35 postpaid. Contact Joseph Douwe Rienstra, M.D., House 4, Point Hudson, Port Townsend, WA. 98368.

* * * * * * *

Attention newsletter publishers, writers.

Professional typesetter will receive files from your computer for transformation to typeset or letter-quality printed copy. Contact by modem at (317) 288-8389 8-5 Mon.-Fri. or 11 p.m. -5 a.m. AMCALL default config. Or write R.R. 13, Box D-34, Muncie, IN 47302

* * * * * * *

To Whom It May Concern,

I have recently gone into the consulting business and this venture required that I purchase an IBM PC. As a result of this, I am selling my Osborne 1 computer. The machine has the 80-column upgrade, and is in perfect condition. No reasonable offer will be refused, and I'll pay the shipping costs. Also included is all Osborne software plus dBASE II, and Jrt Pascal, and Nevada Cobol. I will also include a parallel printer cable.

Richard Nicosia
234 41st Street
Lindenhurst, NY 11757

* * * * * * *

dBASE II FOR SALE

I have an unregistered and unused package of dBASE II for an Osborne 1. It is for sale and includes all documentation, registration forms, tutorial disks, and ZIP (a screen generator). The price is $355. Anyone interested should call me at (914) 725-5832 in New York. Gil Bassak

* * * * * * *

Your Osborne Can Speak French

LANPAR, the Canadian Osborne distributor, has manufactured a chip for the Osborne that provides a French character set. It costs about $250 U.S., and I would suggest that you direct any inquiries to LANPAR, 5690 Royalmount, Montreal, Quebec.

Neil McCubbin

* * * * * * *

THE OSBORNE PC
A New Machine Revealed
by Jim Switz

In addition to the very visible demonstration to the computer world at this year's West Coast Computer Faire that Osborne Computer Corporation is still very much alive, the OCC folks had another significant revelation; the unveiling of the long-rumored prototype Osborne PC. This, the first 16-bit Osborne computer (and the first new OCC computer product in the last year) is destined to be yet another combatant in the fierce marketplace of IBM-compatible microcomputers.

Designed around the Intel 8088 microprocessor, the Osborne PC at first glance appears almost identical to the Osborne Executive, with the exception of the white & tan keyboard. The resemblance is only skin deep, however, as inside the new PC is a whole different computer. According to Ron Brown, the President of OCC, the PC has one more engineering iteration to go through before it will be ready for the marketplace (possibly sometime this summer), but the essential design is complete as follows for the standard PC:

— IBM-compatible CPU and I/O
8088 CPU, running at 4.77 MHz
256K bytes RAM standard (expandable to 512K)
8K bytes ROM
Option for 8087 math co-processor
IBM-compatible expansion chassis port for card chassis or external peripherals
2 asynchronous (RS-232) ports
1 parallel (Centronics-type) port

— 7 inch amber internal monitor (same size as Exec's monitor)
Color (both RGB and composite) and monochrome video output capability for external monitor
640 X 200 high-resolution bit-mapped graphics
320 X 200 medium-resolution bit-mapped graphics

— "IBM-style" keyboard
Keytronic 5150 type
Layout is not identical to IBM PC's: Shift/Return keys have been moved to proper locations
LED indicators on locking keys (Caps lock, Numeric lock)
Plug-compatible with IBM keyboard
No annoying clackety-clack every time a key is pressed

— Built-in disk drives
Two: double-density, double-sided (360K per drive)
Same drive supplier as Exec drives (Alps)

— Real-time clock onboard

— Built-in speaker

— Reset button generates full hardware reset (IBM, Compac and others must be turned off for several seconds to generate hardware reset, a function required for reset of some programs, such as Flight Simulator)

— Software reset provided by Control-Alt-Delete combination; same as IBM

— Cooling fan with "low-noise" control circuitry; provides thermostatic control of fan speed to minimize fan noise

— Weight is 28 pounds (same as Exec)

The machine at the show was essentially complete externally, with the exception of the keyboard housing; OCC plans to decrease the thickness of the housing by about 1 inch by production time.

The management of OCC states that the Osborne PC will be virtually 100% compatible with all IBM software; they have found no IBM or compatible software which will not run on the PC. This includes programs (such as Lotus 1-2-3, Microsoft's Flight Simulator, and Frogger, which was running in color on an external monitor) with reputations of ruining so-called compatibles. The only software which OCC anticipates will not run on the Osborne PC are the very few packages (mostly games) which directly address the ROM BASIC included in the IBM; the Osborne machine has no ROM BASIC. My personal observation about software compatibility is that OCC is correct in its statements: people from all over the Faire brought software from their booths, and I saw no programs fail to run correctly on the PC. These included programs which utilize color (displayed simultaneously on the external color monitor and in shades of gray on the internal 7" screen, which incidentally looks sharper than the Executive's monitor). I even heard at one point some fairly decent music streaming forth.

What about CP/M? For now at least, the Osborne PC will not have an 8-bit co-processor, so good old CP/M-80 will not run. However, I would not be surprised to see CP/M-86 supplied with the machine. In addition, OCC has no plans at this time for upgrading the Executive to the PC, but may consider such an upgrade in the future if it can be done at a reasonable price and demand warrants it.

Now, the big question, how much is it going to cost? OCC has not yet set a price, but they stated that the system described above (including unannounced bundled software) should come to market at less than $3000.

My Impressions:

I'm not a big fan of the IBM PC, due to its non-portability and absolutely atrocious keyboard, and I'm annoyed that IBM can get away with selling an overpriced computer without even an operating system included in the basic price. However, I'm impressed with Osborne's offering overall. They made it portable (and lighter that the recently-announced IBM portable), they fixed the keyboard (and did a good job), the internal monitor display is magnificent, and extra goodies like the 256K memory and the ports, which run hundreds of dollars extra on the IBM PC, are included in the basic price. I have no idea what software will be bundled with the computer, but if OCC sticks to tradition I suspect it will be a pretty good package. If I had to guess on the software package, I'd say CPM-86 (possibly Concurrent CP/M), MS-DOS 2.0, a word processor, spreadsheet (Sorcim and OCC seem to get along, so possibly Supercalc 3), and (taking a long-shot here) Microsoft's new Windows, a window manager allowing multiple simultaneous screen displays.

If Osborne delivers on this machine at a price under $3000, and the compatibility is what it seems to be, I suspect they'll have a real contender in the marketplace. The Osborne name is still widely recognized and people seem to have generally good feelings towards the company, as evidenced at the Faire, so the computer will attract attention. My big concern is whether it will come to market fast enough. A summer release will be just on the heels of the availability of IBM's portable, and by the end of this year the market will be flooded with "compatible" portables. This point is well-understood at OCC, so I'm sure availability of the Osborne PC will be just as soon as possible.

Is this the machine which will determine the future of OCC? I can't say; the marketplace will play a large part in determining that. However, Ron Brown stated emphatically at the FOG annual meeting that the PC is not the ultimate Osborne product or objective. The PC will be around as long as the market demands it, but other products are being developed even now, and the company will continue to support the Osborne 1 and Executive, and will continue building the Exec for the foreseeable future.

In summary, it's refreshing to see a company on the brink of disaster only a few months ago come back with not only a reorganization plan, but also a very attractive computer to kick off its re-entry into the marketplace.

cont. on page 55

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Method of Shipment

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Osborne 1 Start Pac	2G08000-00	$ 25	________	________
Osborne 1 Tech Man	2F00153-00	$ 45	________	________
OCC 1 Comm Pac	2B50000-00	$ 155	________	________
OCC 1 Power Pac	2B60000-00	$ 125	________	________
Executive*	2K00000-01	$1595	________	________
Exec Diagnostic Disk	3D01002-01	$ 55	________	________
OCC 1 D/D Bundled S/W	2D10306-01	$ 55	________	________
BASCOM	2G00901	$ 225	________	________
BSTAM	2G00201	$ 95	________	________
DATASTAR	2G01001	$ 225	________	________
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	________	________
DEADLINE	2G00530	$ 40	________	________
DISKDOCTOR	2G00401	$ 65	________	________
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	________	________
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FORTH	2G00801	$ 125	________	________
FORTRAN-80	2G05000	$ 195	________	________
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MATH STAR	2G04801	$ 35	________	________
MILESTONE	2G01501	$ 195	________	________
MONEY MAESTRO	2G01801	$ 125	________	________
MUMATH	2G01301	$ 145	________	________
PERSONAL DATEBOOK	2G01401	$ 95	________	________
PERSONAL PEARL	2G01601	$ 195	________	________
REAL ESTATE CALCAID	2G04901	$ 65	________	________
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SpellStar shipped as single-sided, double-density disk, WordStar, MailMerge and StarIndex shipped as single-density disks.

Please allow 4 to 8 weeks for delivery.

FROM THE FOG *cont. from page 8*

Well, I guess that's it for this month. If there are any volunteers to assist me with step-by-step tutorials, please leave a message on the system so I know what software/hardware combination you are working on. I would like to have a simple tutorial for every possible combination before the summer is over so if you have some time, please consider it. I would prefer that the first tutorials be done for use with System #1 or #2 since that will make the typesetting easier. Also, I would like to break the tutorials into four parts — first time caller, full use of the METAL system, and first time on the RCP/M, and full use of the RCP/M. If you have some ideas for other subjects, please let me know.

LIBRARY *cont. from page 42*

tion and support files, is on -FOG/EX1.015.

PRNTR.COM, by Mark Aaldering, initializes parameters for the Gemini 10X/15X printers. The squeezed source code, PRNTR.AQM, is included and can be modified for other printers if desired.

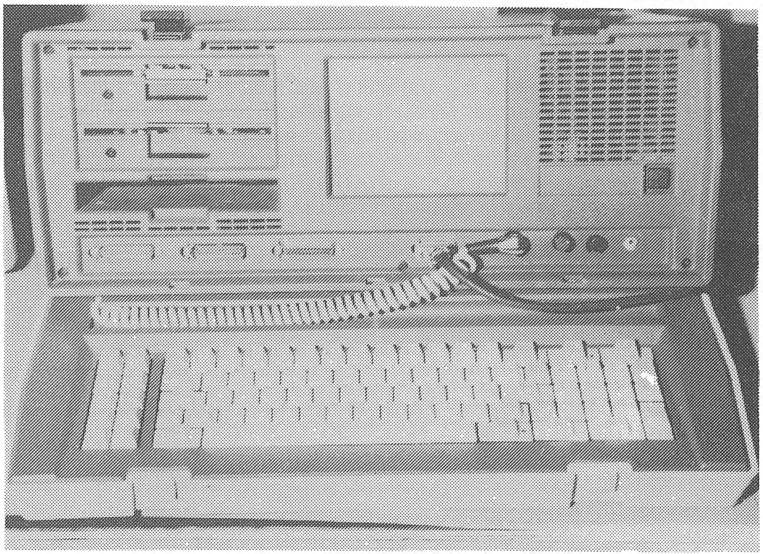
Note:

Squeezed files (those with a Q as the middle character of the filetype) may be unsqueezed using USQ-19, on -FOG/EX1.002 or NSWP202, on -FOG/EX1.013. Library files (those with a filetype .LBR) may be extracted using DELBR, on -FOG/EX1.003 or LSWEEP, on -FOG/EX1.013.

Hasta la vista!

* * * * * * *

cont. from page 52



The Osborne Computer Corporation 16 bit, PC compatible system shown at the Faire. Ron Brown says it will be released later this year and may vary a bit in appearance. Picture by Frank Morton

* * * * * * *

CORRECTION

In the April issue there was a typing error in the dBASE II 80 Column Patch Version 2.4 by Ashton Tate. The second A> line should read:

```
A>SAVE 71 dBASE.COM<cr>
```

We are very sorry for anyinconvenience.

* * * * * * *

FOG MEMBER MERCHANDISE

Price increase for UNIFORM is announced! The new price is $69.95. This program is no longer copy protected. We've have used a copy several times here in the office to send stuff to members and have been very happy with the results. We would like, though, to know what other users think.

We are apparently not going to be able to get SmartKey and SmartPrint any more. When existing stock is gone, orders will be returned. SmartKey2 and SmartPrint2 are still available and we anticipate no difficulty in obtaining these. We sure would appreciate a review of these two programs.

SmartKey2 is $89.95, SmartPrint2 is $49.95. If you get both at the same time, the price is $129.95.

As noted last month, C.I. Software has made their program HexPrintR® available to the membership. The price is $39.00. This program works with WordStar to give you full control over your dot matrix printer.

In December, we reported the addition of the book on WordStar by Tony Bove and Cheryl Rhodes. This book is a must for anyone looking for assistance in using WordStar. The price is $7.25.

One of the most popular items in the FOG inventory is the T-shirts with the FOG logo. These T-shirts are soft Osborne blue in color and are Hanes 100% cotton. They are cut large to allow for shrinkage. Sizes available are small (34-36), medium (38-40), large (42-44), and X-large (46-48).

The price is $8.00 each (two for $15.00) for members and $10.00 each for non-members so be sure to include your membership number. Add $1.00 for shipping.

CP/M Extension Utilities were reviewed in Vol. I, Issue 10. Unprotect is an 8080/8085/Z80 machine language program which runs under CP/M. Its purpose is to decrypt Microsoft BASIC (Release 5) files which have been saved in a protected format. It is hoped that anyone buying and using this software will remember that this program should only be used to correct errors in PROTECTed files of which you have a legal copy. Please bear in mind that piracy is both illegal and a sure way to reduce the software available for your use.

We also have available a set of two cassette tapes which are designed for the new Osborne user. Created for a 1.2 rev. model Osborne, the tapes will be very helpful if listening to a step-by-step procedure is an easier way for you (or the family) to learn. The tapes are equally useful for a 1.3 or 1.4 rev. Osborne as the only real change the that the FORMAT program is now a part of the COPY program. (On the 1.2 rev. these were two separate programs.) The set of tapes are $25.00

California members please add sales tax to the cost of any of these items. Overseas members should add first class airmail postage to the cost of any of the FOG merchandise.

Prices on the merchandise are as follows:

SmartKey2 only	$89.95
SmartPrint2 only	$49.95
SmartKey2/SmartPrint2	$129.95
CP/M Ext. Utility Pkg	$39.00
Unprotect	$29.00
UNIFORM	$69.95
HexPrintR	$39.00
SmartKey1 only (remaining stock)	$60.00
SmartPrint1 only (remaining stock)	$35.00
T-shirts	$8.00
	2 for $15.00
WordStar Guide	$7.25
Cassette Tapes	$25.00
LIBRARY DIRECTORY	$5.00
OCC-1 — Centronics cable	$39.95
6″ X 4.5″ fresnel screen enlarger	$19.95

To order any of these items, please send your payment to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474. Please include your membership-account number. If shipment cannot be made, your check will be returned. We cannot sell the manuals separately.

* * * * * * *

The First Osborne Group (FOG) has been formed as a User's Group for persons using or interested in portable computers and/or the CP/M disk operating system with related software. In April of 1984, there was over 11,000 members from around the world. Most attend meetings at over 400 locations.

Computer systems owned or used by members include the Osborne 1 (single and double density), the Osborne Executive, all models of the Morrow MicroDecision, the Zorba, all models of the KayPro, the Micromate, the Lobo Max, and many others. Special interest groups being organized to augment a network of local group meetings include dBASE II, ham radio, Personal Pearl, etc.

Dues in FOG are $24.00 per year. This entitles each member to a copy of the ***FOGHORN*** each month as well as access to the disk library and the RBBS-RCP/M. Local group meetings are open to the public without charge although access to the disk library is restricted to the membership. The FOG library contains only software copyrighted for the public domain. Piracy (the copying of proprietary software) is strongly condemned.

In the United States, the ***FOGHORN*** is normally mailed by non-profit bulk mail. (FOG is a corporation in the state of California and has obtained its non-profit, tax exempt status from both the state and federal governments.) For those who live out of the U.S., or those who prefer first class delivery of their ***FOGHORN***, additional postage must be added to the annual dues. See the chart on page 2 for details. Page 2 also contains most membership information.

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